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No. 4

Session 1905-1906

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE

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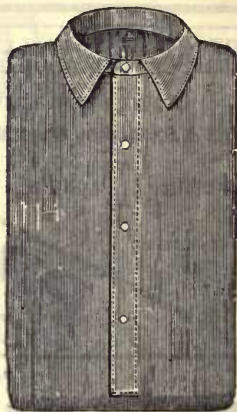
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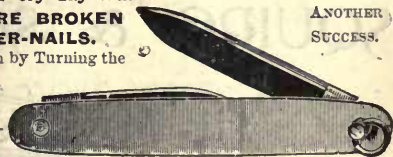
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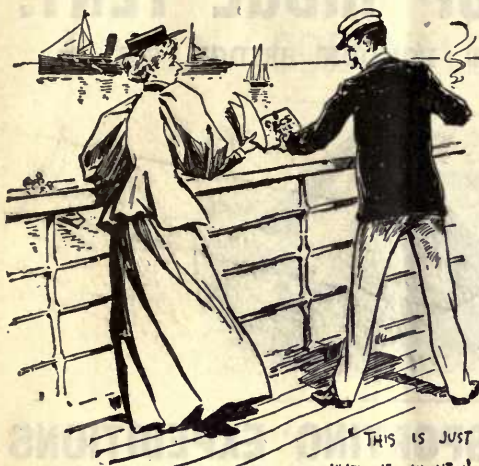
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OF THE

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No. 4. SESSION 1905-1906

MARCH 1906

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### PROCEEDINGS.

#### FOURTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

THE Fourth Ordinary General Meeting of the Session was held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on Tuesday, February 13, 1906, when a Paper on "The Products of Australia," was read by the Hon. J. G. Jenkins (Agent-General for South Australia).

Sir George S. Clarke, G.C.M.G., F.R.S., a member of the Council of the Institute, presided.

Amongst those present were the following :—

RT. REV. LORD BISHOP OF ADELAIDE AND MRS. THOMAS, MISS ALLPORT, MR. E. A. ANGLAS, MRS. ASPINWALL, MR. GARDNER, S. BAZLEY, MR. AND MRS. OCTAVIUS C. BEALE, REV. H. E. AND MRS. BEECH, MR. H. HESKETH BELL, C.M.G., MISS BERROW, MESSRS. H. F. BILLINGHURST, B. BONTHRON, MRS. GEORGE BOOTHBY, MISS BRACKENBURY, MISS HARRIS BROWNE, MISS M. HARRIS BROWNE, SIR T. FOWELL BUXTON, BART., G.C.M.G., MESSRS. BUXTON, D. BYRNE, G. CARTER, R. J. CHAMPION, MR. AND MRS. CUMBERLAND CLARK, MESSRS. MARTIN CLARK, W. A. CLARK, MISS CLARK, MESSRS. HENRY CLARKE, J.P.D.L., PERCY CLARKE, LL.B., MISS A. CLARKE, MISS L. CLARKE, MISS COAKER, MR. T. A. COGHLAN, I.S.O., HON. SIR JOHN A. COCKBURN, K.C.M.G., M.D., LADY COCKBURN, REV. H. N. COLLIER, MESSRS. C. S. COLTON, B. F. CONIGRAVE, CORDREY, W. F. COURTHOPE, W. S. CUFF, MISS CURTHOIS, MR. D. DALLAWAY, MRS. F. W. DAVIES, MR. F. H. HUMPHREY DAVY, MISS DE GRUCHY, MISS C. DE THIERRY, MR. C. W. DIXON, MISS DU CAINE, MR. H. F. EATON, LT.-GENERAL SIR J. BEVAN EDWARDS, K.C.M.G., C.B., MR. H. W. ELY, MR. AND MRS. J. H. FINLAYSON, MISS K. A. FINLAYSON, MISS VESEY FITZGERALD, MRS. FORBES, MISS FORD, MISS D. L. GILL, MR. AND MRS. J. W. GORDON, MR. H. P. GOODE, MISS M. GREEN, MR. AND MRS. SEBRIGHT GREEN, MISS GRIFFIN, MISS GRUNDY, MESSRS. E. HAGGARD, F. HANTON, MR. AND MRS. L. F. HARROLD, MISS H. HAY, MESSRS. R. H. HEIN, F. T. HEYS, C. F. HILL, SIR G. B. HINGLEY, BART., MR. J. F. HOGAN, MRS. HOMEWOOD, PROFESSOR EDWARD

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The Minutes of the last Ordinary General Meeting were read and confirmed, and it was announced that since that Meeting 15 Fellows had been elected, viz., 1 Resident and 14 Non-Resident.

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*J. Bain Ballantine, A.I.M.M., A.M.I.E.E.*

Non-Resident Fellows :—

*Octavius C. Beale (New South Wales), Percy R. Bolus, M.B., M.R.C.S. (Falkland Islands), Thomas D. C. Brown (Transvaal), J. Cathey Campbell (Falkland Islands), James R. Corpe (South Australia), Harold T. Creasy (Ceylon), Hubert C. Fisher (Transvaal), J. Talfourd Furley (Gold Coast Colony), Wm. Thomas Gladwyn (Tasmania), Edwin H. Godwin (British East Africa), George L. Longden (British East Africa), H. Beaufort Megson (Southern Nigeria), His Excellency the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Selborne, G.C.M.G. (Transvaal), Henry C. Weatherill (Bechuanaland Protectorate).*

It was also announced that Donations to the Library of books, maps, &c., had been received from the various Governments of the Colonies and India, Societies, and public bodies both in the United Kingdom and the Colonies, and from Fellows of the Institute and others.

The CHAIRMAN : When, about two and a half years ago, I had the honour of meeting Mr. Jenkins in Sydney, nothing seemed less likely than that we two should meet in London in 1906 ; but "the unexpected always happens," and it is a great pleasure to be here to-night presiding on what is, I believe, the first occasion when Mr. Jenkins has faced the ordeal of reading a Paper before one of these interesting but rather formidable gatherings. Mr. Jenkins has

wide Australian experience, and also a knowledge both of the United States and Canada ; he is therefore in the position, from personal experience, to compare the relative advantages and conditions of life in those great countries. He has been for ten years consecutively a Minister of the Crown in South Australia, including four years as Prime Minister of that important State, and in a country in which political changes of a dramatic character are not uncommon, I believe this constitutes a record. In the limits which the Institute imposes on the readers of Papers ; it would be impossible to deal adequately with the various products of such a vast and rich country as Australia ; but Mr. Jenkins will give you an admirable summary, and I only wish the facts and figures he will bring before you to-night could be spread far and wide throughout the United Kingdom.

The Hon. J. G. Jenkins then read his Paper on

#### THE PRODUCTS OF AUSTRALIA.

BEFORE dealing with the subject of my Paper, I wish to thank Sir George Clarke for so kindly consenting to preside. Personally, I feel under a deep obligation to him. Although I had but few opportunities of meeting Sir George while he was Governor of Victoria, I, in common with all who took an interest in public affairs, recognised the zeal and ability displayed by him during his residence amongst us, and while we were proud of the more extended and important duties he was called upon to perform, we all regretted that it necessitated his resigning his position as Governor and leaving Australia. That regret, however, has been greatly modified by the keen and active interest he has taken since his return to England in all things relating to Australia and her advancement.

As a somewhat recent arrival in Great Britain, and a comparatively new member of this Institute, I should like to express my appreciation of its value and usefulness. By bringing British subjects from every part of the world into closer and more friendly relations, it acts as a great Empire bond : while from its excellent library ready information can be gathered upon every subject relating to the British possessions.

The subject of my Paper is such an extensive one that it will be impossible for me to deal with it exhaustively in the time allotted to me. It will be necessary for me to use a good many figures ;

but having in mind the indisputable statement that "figures cannot lie," you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are listening to facts, even if it is at the expense of that attractiveness which is so characteristic of some papers of a more lurid nature.

A hundred years is but a brief period in a nation's history, and in Australia's case it is only fair to say that she cannot be considered to have had more than fifty years of responsible existence. During the first half of the last century even, her laws were manufactured for her in England and sent out for application; generally speaking, Australia was looked upon as the lower end of the earth, a kind of "back-door of Creation where the Creator swept His refuse," assisted by the British Government.

Like all new countries, it took time to learn what could be produced with advantage. The great expanse of territory and extensive coast-line rendered it more difficult in her case than with most countries. In considering the development we must remember that Australia contains nearly 3,000,000 square miles of land; is about 2,000 miles from north to south, and 2,400 miles from east to west, with a coast-line of 8,850 miles. A better idea of its magnitude can be formed when we realize that it is more than twenty-five times as large as the United Kingdom, nearly as large as the whole of Europe, or as the United States of America.

#### THE PASTORAL INDUSTRY.

One of the first industries to prove a source of profit was the pastoral, and it has continued one of the chief producers of wealth. The few thousand sheep of 1800 had grown into flocks of 106,000,000 by 1891, and although the severe droughts for some years since materially reduced the number, the flocks are now being increased by millions each year, and with the improved water-supply in the interior and better facilities for moving feed and stock, the loss to pastoralists would be greatly averted even should another drought occur.

As a wool-producing country, Australia stands without a rival. During the past fifty years she has exported £610,000,000 worth. The value exported in 1904 was over £17,000,000 and in 1905 it is reported to exceed £20,000,000. About one-sixth of the sheep on the earth are pastured and shorn in Australia. One important fact in connection with the pastoral industry is the great improvement in the quality and quantity of wool produced from each sheep. In 1861 the average fleece per sheep weighed under four pounds,

while in 1901 the average fleece weighed over seven pounds. To put it more forcibly before you, it would have taken about 132,000,000 sheep in 1861 to have produced as much wool as 75,000,000 would produce in 1901.

Argentine claims to be a greater sheep country than Australia. The number given in its recent reports was 120,000,000. If this be correct, they must be of very inferior quality, for while 65,000,000 sheep in Australia produced over 1,000,000 bales of wool for export in 1904, Argentine only exported a little over 500,000 bales, showing less than a third the amount of wool per sheep. Although wool is the chief product of wealth to the sheep-farmer, the export of meat is growing into large dimensions, and last year 1 368,000 frozen sheep and lambs were exported, valued at over £1,000,000 ; and this is an industry capable of great extension and one that is exceedingly profitable for farmers as well as for larger pastoralists. The total value of production from sheep in 1903 was £24,000,000 while the value of our cattle was over £6,000,000 and from horses about £3,000,000.

As a cattle country, portions of Australia are unsurpassed, and it is a great mistake to suppose that all Australia is liable to be depleted of its stock by droughts. A few years ago, when the interior of the Eastern States was affected, millions of acres in Western Australia and the Northern Territory of South Australia were covered with a bountiful supply of fattening grass, and the station-owners made fortunes. While on this subject, I might relate an incident to show that the interior of Australia is not the desert some people imagine it to be. One of the station-owners near the Victoria River, in the North-west of the Continent, decided to send a mob of cattle down to South Australia for sale. He arranged with a drover to deliver 1,000 head of cattle at the railway about 1,000 miles South ; and those cattle were driven this long distance right across the centre of Australia, having ample water and feed, and were delivered in good condition. The station-owner sold them at auction, realising a profit of about £4 per head over and above cost of raising and driving to market.

#### EXPORT OF BUTTER.

Speaking of cattle naturally leads to butter, and I should like for a moment to call special attention to the rapid growth of the dairying industry. In 1890 the entire amount of butter exported from Australia was less than *Two million pounds'* weight, while in

1904, after all local requirements were met, there was over 64,000,000 pounds of butter and nearly 8,000,000 pounds of cheese available for export. This industry is one with every prospect of further growth. There are thousands of acres in the country not yet used for dairy-farms that could be so used with every likelihood of profitable returns. The United Kingdom imports over £20,000,000 worth of butter each year, and as yet Australia supplies but a small portion of that amount.

#### PIGS, POULTRY, AND RABBITS.

With the increase of dairy products, pig-breeding should also increase, for it is generally considered a profitable adjunct. The number of swine in Australia in 1903 was 850,000.

Before leaving animal-products, I might mention the poultry industry, which is now attracting considerable attention; several lots have been sent to the London market with favourable returns. The constantly improving shipping facilities should enable Australians to make this a profitable line of production. The value of poultry and eggs produced in Australia in 1903 was about £2,500,000. Another industry of some importance has grown out of the squatters plague of a few years ago—*rabbits*. They are now a means of wealth to the trapper and the merchant, and furnish cheap food and a change of diet for many in different parts of the world.

#### AGRICULTURE.

So far, I have only dealt with what we might term animal products. Now let us turn for a moment to agriculture. However great the returns from our pastoral industries, I think the time is near at hand when our agricultural returns will far exceed them. The value of agricultural products for 1903 amounted to over £34,000,000. I shall not enumerate them all, for it is well known that almost every kind of grain, fruit, and vegetable can be grown to advantage in Australia.

#### WHEAT.

The principal crop is wheat, and in 1903 over £12,000,000 worth was grown. This year it will be about the same, and when we consider that in several parts of the country only a small portion of the suitable land has been utilised for wheat, and that millions of acres more can be profitably applied for that purpose, we can

depend upon a largely increased production within the next few years.

In dealing with Australia's wheat-production, people who are unacquainted with the country and the mode of farming are often misled. The small yield per acre is no criterion, compared with other countries, of the profit a farmer makes out of his wheat. Much of the land is the easiest in the world to work; ploughing, sowing, and harvesting all done by machinery specially adapted for the conditions of the soil and climate. The same machine cuts, threshes, cleans, and bags, and instead of sheaves of wheat to be gathered, stacked, and threshed as in most countries, you can follow the machine with a waggon, gather up the bags of wheat and, if you choose, drive straight to market, thus saving the labour and expense of several handlings. I shall not weary you by taking item by item of the agricultural products, but one or two deserve special mention.

#### SUGAR.

Sugar is now being grown and manufactured to such an extent that nearly the whole of the consumption is supplied by local production. During the last three years the imported sugar has fallen from 83,000 to 15,000 tons, while the Australian production has increased from 92,000 to 171,000 tons, and a large quantity of this is grown by white labour.

Sir John Forrest, in his Budget speech last August, said: "Those who were not very sanguine as to white men being found willing to do the work in the tropics—and I confess I had the greatest doubt myself—must be pleased at the success which has thus far been realised."

#### AUSTRALIAN WINE.

Another product of the soil which has materially increased in the last few years is Australian wine. The soil and climate are especially adapted for viticulture, and if it were not that I am prevented from touching upon debateable politics, I might suggest that the Free-trade policy of England should be extended by reducing or removing the duty from Australian wines, while not interfering with the existing Customs and cordial relations with France.

About 5,500,000 gallons of wine was made in Australia last year and this amount could soon be doubled if profitable markets could be opened up for its sale.

## FRUIT.

I question very much if there is any country in the world where such a great variety of fruit can be grown with advantage as Australia grows. Almost every kind of known fruit grows in either one State or another: peaches, pears, plums, apples, apricots, nectarines, cherries, figs, grapes, oranges, lemons, pine-apples and bananas all grow and ripen to perfection. The export trade so far is chiefly limited to apples. For some years Tasmanian apples have been exported and the mainland States are now rapidly following her example. The quantity shipped has reached about £150,000 value per annum, but as the fruit-supply for the English market is over £11,000,000 worth there appears to be a great opportunity for increasing apple production. The value of the produce from Australian orchards in 1903 was £1,133,000. The most of this is locally consumed and the values are local. You could increase the amount by several millions if you valued grapes, peaches, &c., at the prices fruit is sold in the West End of London. You can buy equally as good grapes in Adelaide for *one penny* per pound as you are charged 2s. 6d. or 3s. a pound for in London. Peaches 1s. per dozen equal to those you purchase at 1s. each.

## TROPICAL PRODUCTS.

I have dwelt upon those products that have been grown in considerable quantities. Now I wish to refer for a moment to what can be grown and what should become most valuable products.

When I was Minister for the Northern Territory of South Australia, I asked Dr. Holtze (who resided for years at Port Darwin but is now the Director of the Botanical Gardens in Adelaide) to furnish a report upon the products which he thought could be advantageously grown. The following are extracts from his report:—

I have the honour to give herewith, in compliance with your request, a list of plants which have been grown successfully by me in the Northern Territory. I am enumerating only those plants which give products of more general utility and for which a ready market can be found.

## COTTON.

This plant is doing so well in the Territory that it has escaped from cultivation and fruits freely in a semi-wild state.

## JUTE AND SUNHEMP.

Both these plants, which are grown in such large quantities in India, succeed perfectly in the Northern Territory; sunhemp, of which gunny bags and wool-packs are made, is a native of the Northern Territory.

## OTHER HEMP-FIBRE AND KAPE.

Sisal hemp, manila hemp, and bowstring hemp. These three plants are also very readily grown. Grass cloth or rhea fibre has also been cultivated very successfully and a native Kapœ of excellent quality has been collected from the native silk-cotton trees.

## RUBBER AND TOBACCO.

Three varieties of rubber-trees have been cultivated quite successfully. Very satisfactory returns per acre have been obtained of good quality tobacco.

Oil-producing plants, such as cocoanut, African oil-palm, sesame oil, peanut oil, castor oil, and citronella oil; all these plants grow so well that not the slightest doubt remains that the Northern Territory soil and climate is quite suited for their cultivation.

The rice plant is specially suited for the swamp plains of the Northern Territory, where rice is found truly indigenous. My observations in China enable me to state emphatically that with suitable labour the Northern Territory could produce all the rice required by the Commonwealth.

## MAIZE.

I have produced three crops of Maize in one year. Millets of all kinds, sorghums, pigeon peas, and various grains were all grown successfully.

Dr. Holtze also reports that the Northern part of Australia is specially adapted for the growth of arrowroot, sugar-cane, coffee, logwood, indigo, ginger, pepper, sweet potatoes, bananas, and pine-apples. Although this report deals particularly with the Northern Territory of South Australia, it is applicable to all Northern Australia and several of the articles I have named are now being profitably grown in Queensland.

## COTTON CULTURE.

I shall not at present refer to the possibility of profitable investment in the growth of many of these products, but I wish for a moment to dwell upon the importance of cotton culture, and what it might mean for Australia. About five-sevenths of the world's supply of cotton is grown in America. The cotton mills of

England are almost entirely dependent upon America's shipments. A short crop or a cornered market disorganises the whole manufacturing interest of England, as was the case three years ago. During the American War from 1860 to 1865 the cotton-supply was almost stopped. Such a thing may never occur again, but America in the territorial acquiring and sea-dominating mood she has lately developed, might again become involved in war, and it would be well for Great Britain, on such an occasion, if she had cotton-fields within her own possessions.

From the samples of cotton produced in different parts of Northern Australia, from the reports of those who have observed its growth, and from expert opinions, there seems no reason to doubt the suitability of Australian soil and climate for its abundant growth.

In September last it was stated in the monthly magazine of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, that "The Northern portions of Australia are capable of growing very fine cotton."

The following is an extract from the "Financier" of September :

The suitability of soil and climate for cotton growing in the greater part of Queensland, Northern West Australia, and the vast Northern Territory of South Australia, has long become placed beyond all dispute. In the Northern Territory the cotton plant has disseminated itself without the assistance of man, and may almost be regarded as portions of the North Australian flora, no less than seven out of the eight known species being found in the country.

The chief reasons why capitalists have not invested in this line of productions are said to be the long distance from population and the fear that white labour in Australia could not profitably compete with the coloured labour of America.

Some months ago, while in the United States, I made special inquiries on the subject of cotton growing. I ascertained that in all probability machinery will soon supersede hand picking. If this takes place, it will mean a great reduction in cost of production. The greater part of the cotton in America is picked by negroes, who earn about a dollar per day. It is claimed for the "Lowry Cotton Picker" (which is the machine nearest perfection) that a youth can work it and pick as much as  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hand pickers. If this is correct, while it would lessen the expense very much where coloured labour was used, it would lessen it more where white labour was used.

To illustrate it by figures. Three good men can pick an average acre of cotton in one day, say 600 pounds of seed cotton. The negro labour at \$1 per day each costs \$3. The machine would do it for

a quarter of that, or 75 cents per acre. The white labour in Australia we might estimate at \$1.50 per day each; three men to pick the acre \$4.50. The machine would do it for a quarter of that amount, \$1.12½ per acre. The difference in cost of hand picking per acre between coloured and white is \$1.50. The difference by machine is only 37½ cents. This margin might be made up by the difference in cost of land. The value of cotton land in America varies from about £4 to £12 per acre, probably a fair average would be about £6. In Australia the land can at present be obtained for less than as many shillings per acre.

#### OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROCURING LAND.

In fact, suitable land for cotton growing is being offered in Northern Australia in blocks, up to 5,000 acres, rent free for seven years, then at a rental of 1½*d.* per acre, with the right to purchase at 2*s.* 6*d.* per acre, subject to certain cultivation conditions. So, if it were only the difference in the cost of picking (providing machines can do the work) the difficulty with labour might be overcome; but the general and continual labour of preparing the ground, planting, cultivating, ginning, &c., must be considered. From experts' reports about the productiveness of the soil, the increased quantity per acre and the possibility in some places of two crops in a year, these should act as a set-off against the cheaper labour in America. The average crop of lint cotton per acre in America is only about 200 pounds, while those who claim to be authorities say that a much larger quantity per acre could be grown in Australia. If the cultivation of cotton is undertaken on a large scale in Australia, its manufacture there will naturally follow. Year by year the cotton mills are getting nearer the grower. The consumption of cotton at the mills in the Northern States of America has if anything decreased during the last ten years, while in the Southern States during the same period, right where it is grown, the amount consumed at the mills has increased between three and four hundred per cent. Cotton manufacture in India is also on the increase. When it is manufactured for local use in the country where it is grown, double carriage is saved as well as much handling. Australia would have the advantage of her own market, and her close proximity to India, China, and Japan would give her a better chance for those markets than the northern manufacturers would have. The consumption of cotton goods by the millions of inhabitants in these eastern countries is rapidly increasing. India annually uses about £20,000,000 worth of

cotton yarns and fabrics ; being nearly one-fourth of the entire export of cotton goods from Great Britain. All this is grown in America, sent to England to be manufactured, and then shipped to India for use. Everything seems to indicate the great possibilities that lie before Australia as a cotton-producing country, and that at no very distant date advantage will be taken of her great natural resources.

#### FORESTS.

Australia is not often referred to as a wooded country, but her timber industry is of greater importance than many suppose. There are immense tracts of forest land and much of the timber is very valuable. Australian Jarrah has a world-wide reputation. The annual value of the timber industry in Australia is about £2,250,000.

The products so far dealt with are those from the surface of the earth, but Australia's riches are not confined to these.

#### MINERALS.

Almost every known mineral has been found, and great wealth has been unearthed, in the different States. The people of the United States of America are proud of showing you the greatest things on earth ; nearly every town is noted for something "the biggest of its kind on this universe." This modesty, that was for years confined to the States (probably by their high tariff), has of late spread across the border into Canada, and now that enterprising country with commendable pride points out her marvellous features and developments. I see no reason why we should not follow the example of our northern cousins, and have a word to say about Australia's "national jewels." What country in the world besides Australia could ever show a mountain of gold like Mount Morgan ? or a mountain of silver like Broken Hill ? or a mountain of tin like Mount Bischoff ? or a "Golden Mile" of rich reefs like Kalgoorlie ? or where else on this sphere has mortal man ever shovelled up such a nugget of gold as the "Welcome Stranger" in Victoria, which weighed 2,280 ounces and was worth £9,000 ? The mineral products of Australia from 1852 to 1904 were worth £611,000,000 and £448,000,000 of this was gold. Last year the value of gold produced was about £16,000,000 and the mineral production for 1904 was £24,000,000. During the past twenty years £40,000,000 worth has been produced from the Broken Hill silver mines and they have paid £14,000,000 in dividends and bonuses. The Mount Bischoff tin mine in Tasmania has produced

£4,000,000 worth of tin and paid £2,000,000 in dividends, being over £166 for each £5 share—not a bad investment. During the last ten years what is known as the “Golden Mile” in Western Australia has produced £32,000,000 worth of gold. The copper mines in South Australia since their discovery have produced over £24,000,000 worth of copper. The Mount Morgan mine in Queensland has produced £12,000,000 worth of gold and paid £6,600,000 in dividends. These are only a few of Australia’s valuable mines; they are to be found in nearly every part of the continent and new ones are frequently being discovered.

#### COAL AND IRON.

Of that equally useful but not considered such a precious mineral, coal, Australia has inexhaustible supplies. And the coal deposits appear to extend all round the coast: Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, Tasmania; and I see by recent reports that a discovery of good coal has been made in the Northern Territory of South Australia, which will be of immense value to assist in the development of all Northern Australia. The value of the coal produced in Australia up to the end of last year amounts to nearly £55,000,000. Notwithstanding the great mineral wealth that has already been produced, some of the most important developments of national mineral riches are waiting for the future. Australia is rich in iron ore of the most valuable kind, and the time must soon come when that great body of dormant wealth will be utilised, and with such vast supplies of coal and unlimited iron ore, there is no reason why Australia should not manufacture the thousands of tons of iron which are annually required for her use.

#### MANUFACTURES.

I do not purpose dealing with what are generally known as manufactured products, although many of them are dependent upon and closely allied to the primary products of the country. Over £60,000,000 has been invested in manufactures, and the annual value of their output is nearly £30,000,000.

For many of the figures I have used, I am indebted to the works of T. A. Coghlan, Esq., the Agent-General for New South Wales, who has long been recognised as a statistical authority.

## NEED FOR ADVERTISING.

Australians have been so diffident about mentioning the importance and advantages of their country that many persons well informed on other subjects appear to be unacquainted with the facts. I noticed that at a recent meeting of this Institute, Sir Edward Hutton took the lecturer to task for his want of knowledge on this point. I cannot do better than quote Sir Edward's words :

I should like, in the first place, to take exception to a statement on the first page of the paper, in which Mr. Osborn refers to Western Canada as the only land to which immigrants really can be profitably drawn. It has been my fortune to have served the Crown in all parts of the Empire, and deep as is my regard for Canada and Canadians, I cannot allow that statement to pass unchallenged. I cannot for instance forget that Western Canada, with all its charms, has a winter extending over seven months. Recently I have come from a country within the British Empire, and not unknown to the British public—though perhaps not altogether in the height of its popularity—I refer to Australia, where there is no winter and where metaphorically the grass grows all the year round.

These are the words of an able and observant General, who has spent years in each of the countries. I notice that Mr. Larke, who represents Canada in Australia, complained that the Agents-General in London had misrepresented his country. I feel certain he must have been misinformed. Since my arrival in London I have been in close relation with my colleagues acting for Australia, and I feel confident that they all entertain the highest opinion of Canada and Canadians. Personally I spent several years there, and acknowledge with pleasure the enterprise and kindness of the people, and the great possibilities of the country; but my appreciation of Canada's progress and my admiration for her people does not prevent me from recognising the advantages and possibilities of other parts of this great Empire as well. No one can justly complain of fair comparisons being made bearing upon the progress and wealth of different countries. Such comparisons are often beneficial and inspire greater effort.

## SOME COMPARISONS.

The following statistics will speak for themselves. I use them with no intention of lessening the importance of other countries, but with the sole object of showing the great importance of Australia.

In 1850 the United States had 23,191,000 inhabitants ; it had grown to 76,803,000 in 1900.

In 1851 Canada had 1,842,000 ; in fifty years to 1901 it had grown to 5,371,000. Australia in 1850 had 480,000 ; in fifty years to 1900 it had grown to 3,774,000—Australia's growth in population during the fifty years was 800 per cent., while Canada's was 290 per cent., and the United States 333 per cent.

Australia exported £57,000,000 worth of products in 1904, while Canada's exports for 1903 were £46,000,000 worth.

The primary production in Australia is worth £22 15s. 2d. per head of the population, in Canada it is £16 5s. 6d., in the United States £14 14s., and in Great Britain only £7 18s. 6d. This shows Australia's primary production according to population is about 40 per cent. greater than Canada, 57 per cent. greater than the United States and 300 per cent. greater than the United Kingdom.

The value of gold produced in Australia in 1904 was £16,000,000, in Canada in 1903 £3,871,000, in the United States about £16,000,000.

Australia produced 450,000,000 pounds of wool last year, the United States 292,000,000, and Canada between 10,000,000 and 11,000,000.

Australia has between 70,000,000 and 80,000,000 sheep, the United States 51,000,000, and Canada 3,000,000.

The export of wheat from Australia in 1904 was 33,346,066 bushels, from Canada in 1904 it was 16,779,028.

Last year Australia sent to Great Britain 51,313,000 pounds of butter, Canada sent 33,801,000 pounds, and the United States sent 9,675,000 pounds.

Australia has deposited in her banks £130,752,000 while Canada has £110,921,000 giving Australia £32 18s. 8d. per head of her population and Canada £19 16s.

I shall not weary you with further comparisons. These I felt were necessary, to place Australia's position clearly before you. I have no wish to see the stream of immigration diverted from Canada, but I am desirous of seeing a new stream start for Australia. Each country possesses great opportunities and possibilities, and there are millions of people in Great Britain and on the continent of Europe who could better their condition by emigrating to Australia or Canada. Let the facts relating to each country be placed before those who desire to emigrate, and then they can make their choice.

## THE CLIMATE.

Just a word about Australia's climate. Some people who have never been there think that it is unbearable. Take the year through, I believe there are more fine days in Australia than in almost any part of the world. It is a land of no real winter. For nearly thirty years I was a resident of what is considered one of the warmest cities, and I never felt the heat as oppressive as I have in America, where it is supposed to be much more temperate. It is pretty warm occasionally, but it is not the kind of heat that kills. The death-rate in Australia is one of the lowest in the world. In 1903 it was 12·10 per 1000, compared with 17·37 in the United Kingdom, and 13·19 in Canada in 1901.

## POSSIBILITIES OF GREATER PRODUCTION.

It is not my intention to dwell upon the special advantages Australia possesses for those who desire to make their homes there. My object has been to place before you a brief description of what she has produced, is producing, and is capable of producing. What she has produced is but a small sample of her future capabilities. There are vast tracts of virgin soil, where white men have scarcely trod. This is lying unprospected and undeveloped, with the choicest riches waiting for the spade of the husbandman and the miner's pick.

I have briefly referred to the value of produce exported; in all these lines there is an almost unlimited chance for increase. Millions of pounds' worth of produce which is now sent into Great Britain from foreign countries, might with mutual advantage be produced in Australia and consumed in England. If the 4,000,000 gallons of wine which comes from France, the vast quantity of meat from South America, the 344,000,000 pounds of butter from the Continent, and the millions of bales of cotton from America were only produced by British people on British soil, and conveyed over the seas in British ships by British seamen it would naturally be the means of giving employment to a great number of people, and tend to strengthen the unity of the Empire as well.

## A GOOD COUNTRY TO SETTLE IN.

While I make no claim to be considered an expert on production, my comparisons with other countries have not been made without a certain amount of knowledge. My whole life has been intimately

connected with the producers. I spent more than a quarter of a century in the United States and Canada, and an equal length of time in Australia. Being personally acquainted with many of the primary producers in these different countries, I have no hesitation in saying that all things considered the Australian settler has the advantage as regards climate, comfort, and the chance of acquiring a competency. To show that I am not alone in my experience and opinion of the three countries, I will quote the concluding sentence of a letter recently appearing in the "Manchester City News" from Mr. F. Moss. He says :

As to emigration, I have been more than once in the United States and Canada, but were I again a young man in England, I should make for Australia in preference to either, for the reason that our opportunities are at least equal to theirs, and our climate infinitely superior.

These opinions you will find endorsed by nearly all Australians who are familiar with the countries mentioned.

#### AUSTRALIA'S ASSETS

In concluding, there is one important fact I desire to specially emphasise. It has often been stated, but is generally ignored by financial authorities in Europe and America. I refer to Australia's assets to cover her liabilities—she has borrowed £230,000,000—you ask "What has she to show for it?" She has 15,000 miles of railways which cost £184,000,000 and last year earned £12,000,000, being over  $3\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. interest on all the capital, after paying repairs, renewals, and other expenses. She has harbours, wharves, docks, and jetties growing rapidly in value. She has profitable waterworks in all her principal cities and many parts of the country. She has one of the best postal services and probably the best and cheapest telegraphic and telephonic system in the world. She has thousands of miles of well-constructed roads for her producers to reach the markets. She has universities, colleges, and technical schools highly creditable to any country, while her public-school system extends from the crowded cities on the coast to the most remote inland settlements, and is carried on in over 7,000 well-constructed government buildings by a staff of over 15,000 teachers, unsurpassed for their zeal and ability. She has 1,285 public libraries containing over 2,000,000 volumes of valuable and instructive literature for the use of those who have passed on from school into active life. What I have enumerated are all important assets, but greater than these she has 1,500,000,000 acres of

unalienated land, capable of carrying millions of people and with possibilities of producing wealth beyond the power of man at present to calculate.

But over and above all that I have mentioned, the holders of our bonds have one other security which outweighs them all—that is, the undoubted character of the debtors themselves. Four million people who, independent of all the national wealth I have enumerated (which in other countries is mostly in private hands), are worth over a thousand millions pounds, a larger amount per head than the inhabitants of any other country in the world, except England.

FOUR MILLION PEOPLE who move on with progressive strides, undaunted by droughts and undismayed by disaster—people who are flesh of your flesh, blood of your blood, bonded together as part of this great Empire by the sacred ties of kinship—who are noted for their patriotism, honesty, and industry, who never have and never will entertain the thought of repudiating an honest liability or of failing to meet all just and legitimate obligations !

*The Paper was illustrated by a number of limelight views.*

#### DISCUSSION.

The CHAIRMAN (Sir George Sydenham Clarke, G.C.M.G., F.R.S.) : I think that the very interesting Paper to which we have listened is peculiarly opportune. We all know that in the last few years there has been a tendency in some quarters to regard Australia as the Cinderella of our daughter States, to represent her as inhospitable and unprogressive, and to decry alike her resources and her financial position. I believe this attitude to be unjust. It is painful to all who, like myself, have learned to love Australia and Australians. It can be traced largely, I believe, to the want of that knowledge which this Institute endeavours to spread throughout the Empire. If there have been some features in federal legislation which do not wholly commend themselves to public opinion in the Mother Country, we ought to remember that the Commonwealth is very young, and that young communities always make experiments. In the political as well as in the scientific world experiment is necessary to progress. Just as in the chemical laboratory some experiments lead to the creation of new industries for the benefit of mankind, while others end in disappointment, or, sometimes, in

unexpected explosions, so in the political laboratory we must expect both failure and success. I have the strongest belief in the sterling good sense of the Australian people, and I am certain that they will be quick to discriminate between success and failure—to follow up the one and to remedy the other. Meanwhile, whatever view of these questions we may take, there can be no excuse for any tendency to belittle the resources and prospects of Australia. Mr. Jenkins has put before you a striking picture of Australian production, and he has not in the least overstated the case. When I went to Australia I thought I had some knowledge of Australian resources, but I quickly found that they far exceeded my expectations; and nothing struck me so forcibly as the immense possibilities of that delightful country. Mr. Jenkins has drawn your attention to the remarkably high average per head of value from primary industries in Australia as compared with that of Canada, the United States, and Great Britain. Averages are generally misleading, and always need qualifications of many kinds; but it may be taken as certain that, where the averages from primary productions stand high, the country is a good one, and a great part of Australia is a good country in every sense of the word. Many of you have probably been surprised to learn that Australia, in 1904, exported twice as much wheat as Canada; and I may add that the gold production of Australia falls very little short of that of South Africa, and is still only partly developed. In wool production, Australia, of course, easily leads the world. I ask you not to forget these facts, which will help to dispel some of the false impressions which have, unfortunately, gained currency. While the settled portions of Australia are not yet fully developed, tropical Australia, full of great possibilities, is practically in a state of nature. There is no doubt that, as Mr. Jenkins has told us, this great territory can produce such staples as cotton, rubber, and rice in abundance, besides many other products of great value to mankind. I do not believe that legislation can alter the laws of nature, and the experience of the world is that white field labour is impossible in the tropics. It must be remembered that the whole of the United States, and all, except a little strip of Argentina, lie outside the tropics. I have never heard any valid reason why what Mr. Jenkins calls "suitable labour" should not be employed in the tropical part of Australia, and rigidly limited to that part. And now I want to say a few words on the question of finance, because I have noticed a total want of understanding of Australian conditions in some quarters. I take the case of my old State of

Victoria, whose finances I carefully studied. The Victorian revenue of last year was roughly  $7\frac{1}{2}$  millions; the total State debt is  $51\frac{3}{4}$  millions, and the annual debt charge is about £1,880,000. Now, if you compare these figures with those of the Mother Country, with a revenue of about 142 millions, a total debt of about 762 millions, and an annual debt charge of 27 millions, Victoria appears to be in a bad financial position. Her debt is over £43 per head, and her annual debt charge is about £1 10s. per head; whereas in this country, the corresponding figures are only £18 11s. 4d. and 12s.  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. respectively; but this comparison is utterly fallacious. About  $39\frac{1}{2}$  millions of the Victorian Debt is absorbed in her great Railway system, which earned in the last two financial years a profit of £368,000, after providing interest on the  $39\frac{1}{2}$  millions. About  $8\frac{1}{2}$  millions more of the Victorian debt earn interest. Thus the net liability is less than four millions—which is a mere bagatelle for 1,200,000 people, so full of vigour as are the Victorians. It is really a question as to the way in which public accounts are presented. If those of Victoria were kept in a somewhat different form, some of the criticisms we have heard could not be sustained. While I cordially endorse Mr. Jenkins's statements, I note one grave omission in his account of Australian products. Perhaps he was too modest to include this missing item, or perhaps it did not impress itself so strongly upon an old resident as it did upon one who was suddenly plunged into the midst of Australian life. The omission I wish to supply is the warm hearts of the Australian people, which constitute an asset of the first quality. My wife and I will not easily forget the rich crops, the splendid fruits, the luxuriant flowers, and the delightful climate of Australia; but what will always remain as long as we live is the memory of the unvarying and thoughtful kindness which met us everywhere. In a striking speech, the other day, my friend Sir John Madden said: "England hardly realises as yet the Australian man who is her debtor, or the Australian country and nation which are her security." That is very true; and I believe that the excellent Paper we have heard will help to bring about this much-needed appreciation. Australia needs only population, sound administration, and a minimum of legislation to become one of the most prosperous, as she is by nature one of the most favoured, countries in the world.

Mr. OCTAVIUS C. BEALE (Chairman of the Federal Council of Chambers of Manufactures, Australia): We are all of us, I am sure, most grateful to Mr. Jenkins for the account he has given us of

the great resources of Australia, and the energy displayed by the Australian people. There are, I understand, some persons who are still inclined to look upon Australia as the black sheep of the Empire. In fact, I was told when leaving for London that I must expect to be shunted on every possible opportunity, and that the wisest thing I could do would be not to say I am an Australian. I replied that I should certainly not attempt to disguise the fact. Now I happen to be connected with one of the great industrial organisations of Australia, and I should like you to understand that there is not that antagonism between employers and employed of which we have heard so much. My friend, the president of the Chamber of Manufactures in Adelaide, Mr. John M. Reid, Mr. Forwood, Mr. Charles Atkins (Melbourne), and myself, have frequently visited the Trades and Labour Councils. We ask the heads of those organisations to our functions, we are invited to theirs; and I can give you an absolute assurance, which I trust you will accept, that there has been the grossest exaggeration in the London newspapers concerning the attitude of employes towards employers, and *vice versa*. It is indeed common humanity to see how far we can agree, and always to aim at concord rather than discord. Of course that does not suit every newspaper writer; and I am reminded of the saying of the late Prince Bismarck, that after all there is but one man behind the pen, and that is the man who drives it. Before leaving Australia I was interested to read a speech in which a gentleman, prominently connected with the gold-mining industry, claimed that they have in West Australia the most advanced machinery and processes; but, instead of extolling them, many Australians have a habit of depreciating the good name of their country. We ought to be abundantly thankful that distinguished gentlemen present to-night have had the courage to stand up for Australia so vigorously as they have done. On my left is a gentleman who bears the venerated name of Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, and, sitting beside him this evening, there came into my mind the words of his great ancestor, his grandfather, who said: "The longer I live the more I am certain that the great difference between men, between the feeble and the powerful, the great and the insignificant, is energy, invincible determination, a purpose once fixed, and then death or victory. This quality will do anything for a man that can be done in this world, and no talents, no circumstances, no opportunities will make a two-legged creature a man without it." It must have struck you, looking at the work of Australians, as disclosed to-night, that great determina-

tion, energy and courage have been displayed in order to do the work which they might have asked inferior races to do for them. For myself, I am thankful that they do it themselves, and whatever introduction there may be of other races, I hope there will be the utmost possible caution observed that they don't deteriorate our own race by putting us alongside servile labour, and making us ashamed to do that which we are now proud to do. With regard to the death rate, I am able to supply some later figures than those given by Mr. Jenkins. The death rate he quoted was 12·1 per 1,000; we made a considerable drop the following year, 1904, viz. down to 11 per 1,000. That is a very admirable record. It is indeed gratifying to look down the statistics and see that the death rate has diminished from 16, in 1884, to 11 last year, and that circumstance is due, I believe, not to any material improvement in what is called the age-constitution of the population. Now there was another matter which struck me as illustrating what has been described as our shrinking modesty, and that is regarding a very important industry in South Australia, in which I take great pride—I mean salt production. We happen to produce salt with 99 per cent. of purity. The salt we formerly imported was 2 per cent. below that standard. The salt exported by the European Trust was sold at £8 per ton in Australia until, in 1894, South Australia began to produce, and delivered in that year about 7,000 tons. Then the price of the imported article was dropped to £5; South Australia went on producing, and the price came down to 35s. per ton. Then the Commonwealth put on a duty of 12s. 6d. and the price has remained at 47s. 6d. ever since. The output has gradually increased to 41,000 tons annually, and so there has been established a useful basic industry which I regard as typical. What we desire next is a production of iron and steel. If anyone wishes to help us in this matter I can give him the assurance that, in dealing with his Anglo-Saxon countrymen, he will not experience those difficulties which are sometimes so much enlarged upon. We can point to immense concerns which have never had any trouble, and we would encourage him to go to those much dreaded Trades Unions and see if he cannot make arrangements which would be carried out as faithfully there as anywhere in the world.

The Rt. Hon. LORD BRASSEY, K.C.B.: I followed with the fullest agreement what fell from Sir George Clarke with reference to the kindness that all of us, who for the time being have represented the old country in Australia, have received from the people to

whom we were accredited. It is true to say, I believe, that every Governor who serves in Australia has left his heart behind. One thing I am certain we all feel, and that is the strongest desire that the country shall prosper in every respect. The lecturer has given us a glowing picture of the products of Australia. It is, I feel persuaded, a true picture. The views that were thrown on the screen were most interesting to all of us who have travelled in Australia and called to mind many a familiar scene and many a happy day. It was most interesting to me to hear his account of the great resources of tropical Australia, and particularly was I interested in the journey of that huge mob of cattle through the centre of the great Continent—regions which most of us supposed were very thirsty indeed—and to hear that the cattle arrived in good condition, and fetched a profitable price. I ask myself what we should endeavour to do in order to increase the prosperity of Australia. One thinks immediately of irrigation. When I left Victoria we were discussing very much in responsible Government circles what could be done by irrigation with the waters of the Murray, and I have heard of some scheme, perhaps rather vague and incomplete in its character, but promising, some think, a great deal, for drawing the water of the sea up that deep gulf of South Australia, and creating a kind of lake district—a scheme which would have produced a cooling effect, and increased the rainfall in much the same way, but of course on a much larger scale, as has been done through the filling up of the Bitter Lakes in Egypt. On the subject of emigration, I fully agree with what fell from the lecturer and Sir George Clarke. I confidently recommend Australia to those who have it in their minds to seek their fortunes elsewhere. Don't let us say a word in disparagement of Canada, or any other daughter State of the Empire; but we may speak confidently of the resources of Australia, and I am quite sure many a happy home might be formed there if people would only make up their minds to go so far across the sea. The chairman spoke with some doubt as to the possibility of carrying out all that is required in field labour in the tropical parts of Australia without employing to some extent people of tropical race. I was very much gratified to hear from the lecturer of the success which has attended the employment of white labour in the sugar plantations of Queensland; but I feel persuaded that the aid of the tropical races might be very valuable in those tropical parts; and I don't see why that kind of labour should not be engaged under conditions which are perfectly free and voluntary, and which involve no degradation of any kind to those concerned.

If it should be the view of those who rule in Australia to avail themselves more largely than hitherto of the assistance of the tropical races, I apprehend that the development of Australia's great resources would be greatly promoted, and that many of our own race would find employment in directing the labours of other races in doing work which, without such direction, they are not capable of doing. In conclusion, I would only add that not the least remarkable of the productions of Australia are its statesmen. They certainly do great credit to the country, and one of them is the lecturer of this evening.

The Hon. Sir JOHN A. COCKBURN, K.C.M.G., M.D.: I am very glad to have the opportunity of expressing the pleasure with which I listened to the address of my old colleague; and I am sure his many friends over here are pleased to see that, partitioning his life as he has done in units of no less than a quarter of a century, he is a most magnificent advertisement for the climate of Australia, and has evidently discovered the secret of perpetual youth. I remember an Australian enthusiast who lectured at this Institute saying that it was a very good thing for the Mother Country that Australia was so far off, because, if Australia were within 24 hours' sail, there would be such an exodus as would leave few people in Great Britain. It is certain that Australia presents every attraction that a scion of our great race can offer except proximity, and I think the misunderstanding which British people sometimes entertain with regard to Australia is entirely due to distance. As one who for many years took an active part in affairs in Australia, and who has watched with extreme interest and solicitude the actions of the Commonwealth, I maintain it is difficult, without a powerful microscope, to discover any serious blunders in legislation or administration that the Commonwealth Parliament has committed. Australia, under new and unknown conditions, cannot be developed in accordance with the traditions of an old-established country. Mr. Beale has alluded to one remarkable example of the development of a great primary industry—that of salt. I think I was a member of the Government that offered the inducements to that industry which led to its establishment. This was not done by adhering to old maxims. It required British initiative dealing with problems encountered on the spot; and to proceed in such circumstances on preconceived lines was impossible. Australia is essentially British, and inherits from our forefathers that ingenuity so essential in dealing with the difficulties which beset the path of the pioneer. Australian legislation is very often a pattern on a small scale of that

which has to be followed at no great interval by the Mother Country. Take, for example, the Australian Aliens Act, the administration of which has been so much criticised. It was very easy, when there was no Aliens Act in this country, to find fault with that administration; but, within the last few months, since Great Britain has been called upon to administer such an Act, she has had to encounter very much the same difficulties; for instance, there was the case of the shipwrecked crew who recently were not allowed to be landed in England until all the formalities had been observed. Only lack of experience could commit the error of such unwarrantable condemnation of Australian action. Reference has been made to the butter and frozen meat trades. If Mr. Jenkins had been speaking of South Australia in particular, he might have added that he himself had done much in this direction. Now the development of those industries was not effected without throwing all *laissez faire* precedents to the winds. It was done in the recognised Australian method by means of bonus and by Government assistance. So far as this country is concerned, that, of course, is not the method; but such departures are necessary in these new lands. Allusion has also been made to the great interest which this Empire has in the growth of cotton. Knowing as we do that one of our staple industries in this country depends for its raw material on an outside, and, therefore, precarious supply, I could not help asking myself why we should not strike out a new line to meet the case. Why should not Australia, and other Colonies capable of growing cotton, be taken into counsel by the Mother Country, and a joint bonus be given for cotton grown in the Empire and exported to Great Britain? It is, I think, an idea which is worth consideration. It is no use attempting for ever to open the problems of the future with the keys of the past.

There is one other matter to which I would allude, and that is the wine industry. I am not going to trench on party politics, but I maintain that the introduction of Colonial wine into this country might be promoted without raising the bogie of Protection, because there is no wine grown here at all. If some day the Mother Country were to do the graceful thing, and evince some natural affection by admitting Colonial wines at a lower rate than foreign wines, I maintain that that would be no infringement of the Free Trade theory. It would not afford protection to any industry. If we had only succeeded half a dozen years ago—when the Chancellor of the Exchequer imposed higher duties on wines—in the movement led by Lord Stratheona in favour of leaving the duties on colonial wines as they were, I think the whole Fiscal

question might have been solved without any political bloodshed at all. I cannot help thinking that it will not be long before some Government in this country—perhaps the present Government—will say, “We have an overflowing Treasury and we can afford to allow our fellow-citizens who grow wine within the Empire to send their products here without paying such a heavy toll as they now do.” Australia is, as I have said, essentially British—the most British country in the world—more British even than London itself; and she is the only Britain beyond the seas whose progress is not complicated by any racial problem. That is a position she is going to maintain at all hazards. In this matter she has, I think, come to a wise decision. It is to be remembered that Australia, far from being at the Antipodes of the world’s activity, is now situated at the point of greatest danger, and occupies a perilous place in that sea which, of late years, threatens to belie its name, the Pacific. Here is the theatre in which the world’s conflicts of the future will take place. In determining to remain a pure British power, and to be a battery for the reinforcement of western civilisation in the Southern Seas, she has adopted not only a wise but a patriotic policy, and one in which she deserves every encouragement. It is a policy adopted not without some degree of self-sacrifice, and one which I hope will be maintained for the advantage of the Empire, no matter what self-sacrifice in the future the determination involves.

Sir T. FOWELL BUXTON, Bart., G.C.M.G.: I cordially associate myself with all that has been said in the way of congratulating Mr. Jenkins on his most interesting Paper, and his cheering account of the products of Australia. I think something might be said about the climate, and perhaps I may illustrate this by saying that, very soon after I, with my family, arrived in Australia, we were up the Murray, and our experience was such that we telegraphed to our friends at home “120 in the shade, all well.” The thermometer does “go up like anything” and bounds down again, but somehow it is essentially a healthy climate, and I think that those who, like Lord Brassey and myself, take our exercise in riding without much regard for the thermometer, did very well and kept ourselves in fairly good health. To those who are going out to Australia for the first time, I should like to say how much enjoyment they will get from the profusion, the fertility, and the splendour of the flowers they have been in the habit of seeing in English parks and gardens. Allusion has been made to the wine industry, and Sir John Cockburn has suggested that the duty on Australian wine should be

removed. Possibly Canada might have something to say about that, though that is a matter which might be got over, perhaps, by subsequent arrangement; but what would the brewers say, and what would the teetotalers say? There might, in fact, be a deal of trouble arising from that project, of which the last speaker spoke with so much hopefulness. I quite agree with Lord Brassey in his remarks concerning Australian statesmen. In a way I can say this with better authority, because the last speaker and the reader of the Paper were Ministers in South Australia, and historical accuracy as well as personal vanity compel me to say that they were my Ministers. In regard to the supposition that Australia and Australian interests are viewed with animosity in this country, I should like to say that I am convinced that is a pure hallucination. I do not believe that anything approaching acrimony or hostility in any form towards Australia exists in this country, and the same may be said of all our Colonies; in fact, all our fellow subjects are, I think, always received with the utmost goodwill.

Replying to a vote of thanks, proposed by the Chairman :

Mr. JENKINS said: I am most grateful to the various speakers for the kind remarks they have made. I am exceedingly pleased to see here Sir T. Fowell Buxton, under whom I had the privilege to serve, and am very pleased also to see Lord Brassey, who is ever faithful in his loyalty to Australian interests. I will now ask you to give a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, and I must thank him particularly for the complimentary remarks with reference to myself.

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### “OUR EMIGRATION PLANS.”

AN AFTERNOON MEETING was held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on Tuesday, February 20, 1906, when a Paper was read by General Booth, of the Salvation Army, on “Our Emigration Plans.” Sir Frederick Young, K.C.M.G., presided.

The CHAIRMAN: General Booth's name is world wide. He requires no introduction from me. But I ask you to permit me to occupy your time for a very few minutes while I state the reasons why it gives me so much pleasure to preside on the present occasion. The subject we are met to consider is a national one. In early life I was much impressed by the celebrated dictum of John Stuart Mill that for an old and wealthy country like England

the investment of a certain amount of her national capital in emigration was the best investment that such a country could indulge in; and for many long years I have been an ardent advocate of emigration. My attention was first specially drawn to this subject in consequence of my personal association with the founder of New Zealand, Mr. Edward Gibbon Wakefield, and under his auspices, between the years 1839 and 1851, I sent many hundreds of emigrants to that great Colony. Every one of you who is acquainted with the history of New Zealand knows what a successful emigration that was; but it was emphatically a selected emigration—it included no waifs or strays. Sons and grandsons of those I assisted to send out to that Colony have shown in many ways of what kidney they were; and within the last few months we have had a New Zealand team beating us “hip and thigh” in the great national sport of football. That, I think, is a proof of what a good and properly selected emigration is able to effect. Several years afterwards, in the year 1869, I published a pamphlet under the title of “Transplantation the Best Method of Emigration.” It was at the time I was acting as Chairman of a society formed for the purpose of the promotion of State Emigration. We endeavoured to promote our views by every means—in conference, by holding public meetings, and otherwise. But after a time it failed to arouse an apathetic public, or to command the support of a supine Government, and it consequently ceased to exist. For a long time those who, like myself, advocated emigration were simply “howling in the wilderness,” during which thousands of our countrymen have emigrated to the United States instead of going to our own Colonies; but I am delighted to find in my old age that the subject is again reviving, I hope with far more success than in the days I have referred to. This can hardly fail to be the case with the powerful help of the Head of the Salvation Army, with the assistance of the equally influential people connected with the Church Army, with the priceless sympathy of His Majesty the King, and with those other agencies of an excellent, though smaller, character, composed of philanthropic ladies and gentlemen who have been actuated by a desire to send as many of the surplus population of our islands as their limited funds would allow, to the various Colonies of the Empire; and who have done so much good in that respect in the past. I do hope that the efforts which are now being made will be supported both by a sympathetic public and a sympathetic Government. I will now conclude what I have to say by reading to you two letters

that have come into my hands within the last week or two of a special interest in connection with the meeting. One is from a relation of my own, a Captain in the Royal Navy, now living at Southsea. The letter is as follows :

Dinan Cottage, Southsea, January 13, 1906.

DEAR SIR FREDERICK,—Many thanks for sending me your interesting letter to the Editor of "Canada." I am, as you know, entirely in agreement with your views on Emigration, and can quote a case which quite lately came under my observation.

A young woman, in whom we are interested, married a carpenter who at the time of their marriage was earning £2 a week. A year afterwards, when a baby had to be provided for as well as his wife, he lost his employment, and they came down very much in the world, and had to live on the proceeds of the sale of their furniture.

Another carpenter friend, who was also out of work, induced him to emigrate to Canada. He landed at Ottawa, and at once found work at £4 a week. A month later he was able to send home enough money to pay his wife's and baby's passage out, and we now hear they are doing well and are very happy.

Yours very sincerely,

CLAUD HARDING.

"They are doing well and are very happy." That is the crux of the letter.

And here is a letter I only received last week from the Governor-General of Canada :

Government House, Ottawa, January 29, 1906.

DEAR SIR FREDERICK,—I have to thank you for your letter of the 13th, and for the copies of your letter on Emigration and Colonization, which you have addressed to the Editor of "Canada." I hope something may come out of the negotiations which have taken place between the Salvation Army and the Provincial Government of Ontario. The Ontario Government are, I understand, willing to place at the disposal of the army a large block of well-selected land. The Salvation Army will require an advance of money to enable them to take advantage of the offer. In the event of neither the British Government nor the Ontario Government being prepared to find the money, I hope some private individual may follow the example of Mr. Herring and place such sum as may be required at the disposal of the army. Such a sum would not be a donation ; it would be an advance, for it would be specially secured on the land settled, and there could be no reasonable doubt as to the value of the land settled being excellent security for the amount of the advance. The army would receive the land free, at a time when the value of land per acre is already something substantial, and increasing in amount every year.

I remain, yours sincerely,

GREY.

With these few observations I now beg to invite General Booth to give his address. I understand that the General would rather not have set speeches afterwards, but would be glad to answer any questions.

### “OUR EMIGRATION PLANS.”

General BOOTH said: I have been invited to give my views to the Members and Friends of the Colonial Institute, and describe some of my experiences on the subject of Emigration. It will perhaps be best for me to announce at once that the particular emigration to which my attention has been specially turned, and after which my heart has been specially drawn, and on which I shall endeavour to speak this afternoon, is that of those members of the working class, who, either to deliver themselves out of the pit of poverty, or to prevent themselves falling into it, are anxious and willing to leave their native land for some other part of the world that seems more likely to furnish them with the livelihood they need.

The special wave of trade depression which swept over this country some twenty months ago, brought, as will doubtless be well known to most of my hearers, the “Unemployed Question” very much to the front. This has been followed by a similar season of distress during the present winter, although perhaps not of quite so severe a character. Indeed these spasms of poverty have been the experience of our principal cities, with greater or less acuteness, ever since I can remember. A great man has just been saying that there are some millions of people in this rich country who are constantly on the verge of starvation, and there can be no question about the truthfulness of that statement. I said it in my “Darkest England” Book, sixteen years ago—I have been saying it ever since.

While the seriousness of these visitations may have been in a measure exaggerated, there can be no question as to the reality and extent of the evil, for beyond question, there is far more misery of this description than comes to the surface. Some of the greatest of these sufferers endure their agony out of sight. They pine and struggle and die in solitude. This terrible poverty is a great discredit to our boasted civilisation, a reflection on our religion, and, in the long run, imposes a serious financial burden on the shoulders of the community. For this distress many remedies have been and are still being propounded, such as:—

An increase in the extent and organisation of our Public and Private Charities;

Special Legislation for shortening the hours of labour;

The reorganisation of our Social System, which would involve the equal distribution of Land and Property, and make the State the employer of labour ;

The temporary provision of work by the Government, such as the reclamation of waste lands, and the making of new roads, and the like.

Almost the last scheme that was propounded to me, and for which my co-operation was requested, was the construction of a railroad from England to Australia. I followed the amateur proposal forwarded me as far as the channel tunnel, and then gave it up in despair, as being outside the range of practical politics.

But all these devices added together, do not go much beyond the passing alleviation of the evil. The *need* of the men or women circumstanced as we have described, is a regular income, where-with they can purchase the comforts and necessities of life for themselves, and those depending upon them. And the only satisfactory, common-sense remedy by which that income can be provided, appears to me to consist in the provision of permanent remunerative work. The continual cry of those who appeal to our emigration bureau is—"We don't want charity—we want work." That is evidently God's plan for them, and where possible of realisation, it cannot be improved upon. This conclusion, then, leads on to the important question—"Where is that work to be found?" I need not say how desirable it is that, where possible, the work needed by the workless man should be found for him in his own native land. For that course there are many reasons ; but so far as this country is concerned the wanted work is, I fear, not to be found here. For instance, the town industries are crowded out. This specially applies to skilled labour. No doubt there are some trade-union men walking about with their hands in their pockets, although I do not suppose many of them are to be seen marching in the ranks of the unemployed. But it is the *unskilled* labourer for whom there is nothing to do, and who, consequently, is not wanted. I suppose that every trade union in existence would protest against the proposal to add any of these comrades to their ranks. And as it does not seem possible to invent any new industries in the city, there is nothing for them to do there. But if the permanent work wanted for these poor fellows is not to be found in the industries of the town, how far may we look for it with confidence in the country ?

This is a difficult question. One thing is apparent. The present methods of cultivation in Great Britain are an acknowledged failure,

and unless some very remarkable change takes place, and that on a very extensive scale, there is not likely to be a very large demand for this class of labour for many years to come. The hay and corn merchants are crying out already that the motor form of locomotion spells ruin to them, simply because the discontinuance of horse labour speaks of so much less hay and corn being required. I heard a calculation the other day, showing that the three hundred motor omnibuses, and similar kinds of conveyances now running in this city, meant several hundreds of thousands of pounds lost to the farmers in corn, hay, straw, and other materials.

Still, there is a way, in my estimation, by which a large number of the unemployed, especially those of them who have had some agricultural experience, may find a comfortable livelihood on the land, and that is by the small holdings plan. As is well known, the generosity of a friend has placed at my service, for a time, the sum of £100,000, for the purpose of giving me the opportunity of demonstrating the possibility of this being accomplished. That experiment I am preparing to make. I regret to say, however, that almost every one who has had any personal experience in farming, loudly asserts that it cannot be done. But they have not tried it after the fashion I propose. It may seem a somewhat strange thing to say, but I believe that because a man cannot get a living on 500 or 1,000 acres, it does not follow that he will not succeed in doing so with five; anyway, I am proposing to give it a fair trial. But home colonisation, if successful up to the level of my friend Mr. Herring's most sanguine dreams, will need some little time for its expansion before it reaches the magnitude required to provide the work necessary, so I turn my eyes over the seas, and there I find abundance of remunerative work that is wanted—enough and to spare. This leads me to the heart of my subject, which consists in the answer to the question:—"What are the conditions required to make the emigration of the class of people whom I principally compassionate, and in whom this country is specially interested, beneficial for the emigrants themselves, profitable to the country they leave, and advantageous to the Colony to which they come?" To answer this question will not, I fancy, be found the easiest task, but I think it is a possible one.

Here let me remark that I am contemplating emigration on a scale that will be in some measure proportionate to the present need. The mere sending forth of isolated groups of twenties, thirties, or even hundreds, appears to me to be little more than trifling with the evil we seek to remedy. What I think is required, and what I should like to see realised, would be a bridge across the

seas as it were, to some land of plenty, over which there should be constantly passing, under conditions as favourable as the circumstances would allow, our surplus population, instead of its melancholy gravitation, as at present, down to the filthy slums, the hated workhouses, the cruel casual wards, the hopeless prisons, and the like. To reach very considerable proportions this transfer must be alike acceptable to the old country and the new, as well as profitable to the men transferred. That is, it must be felt to be, as we have said, profitable alike to all. It will be seen at a glance that the first thing necessary for this kind of emigration is the satisfactory emigrant. Perhaps I ought to have commenced this part of my topic by describing the country to which it is proposed to transplant my emigrant when I have found him. But, as the Colonial gentlemen, to whom I am especially addressing myself, will no doubt be perfectly satisfied that theirs is the very country required for emigration, it is natural to expect that they will be chiefly exercised as to the class of emigrant it is proposed to send out. I will therefore begin with the selection of the emigrant. That is admittedly a most important task.

And, first, I have said he will be poor. But my Colonial friends must not condemn or refuse him on that account. If they do, they may be shutting the gates against the very man their country needs. For many years I think the Colonies have been making a mistake in this respect. They have been saying, and saying still, "Send us the farmers' sons, possessed of agricultural skill, with £500 or £1,000 in their pockets, and an ambition to make themselves miniature millionaires in a hurry." But this desire has only been very imperfectly responded to. It may have been very stupid of the class to which the appeal has been made, but it has largely refused to respond to the invitation. The young gentlemen have mostly been at boarding schools; anyhow, they have visited the great city, had a turn at its places of amusement, formed gay and worldly companionships, and have no liking for a life on a colonial farm. Moreover, when they have gone out, and taken up land, they have too often spent their money lavishly, been caught in the toils of the money-lender, gone over the border to another country, or been lost sight of in the purlieus of some neighbouring town, or returned home to speak in anything but eulogistic terms of Colonial life and its possibilities.

Then, in considering the value of emigration recruited from the ranks of the poor, it must be remembered that when the working man does settle in the new country, if he is of the right stamp, and

if the country is of the right stamp, and he has the little assistance that he requires, he will not only be likely to stop there, but he will not remain poor very long. The emigration of the Irish to the United States proved that. They were poor enough in Ireland. They could not very well have been poorer; but there are very few poor among them to-day in America, and if we could know the total amount of money which for one object or another they have sent back to Ireland, it would be a startling sum, and for ever settle the question of their betterment in their new country. Australia has proved the same thing. I was at Ballarat and Bendigo, two of the principal cities of that continent, on my last campaign. What class of people was it that made those cities? it may be asked. They were simply Cornish working-men, I reply, many of whom, to my own personal knowledge, were only earning from ten to fifteen shillings per week up to the day of their emigration, and they have not only been the makers of these cities in the past, but are largely the proprietors to-day of the cities they have made. It may be suggested here, that they have profited by the extraordinary gold deposits which they had the opportunity of working; but, as I told the people of Ballarat, on one of my visits, that if the labour, skill, and capital expended in extracting the riches contained in the bowels of the earth had been expended in developing the riches of the surface, even more profitable results would have been obtained.

Then again I would remind my hearers that when the working man emigrates, he does not go alone. Or if his friends and neighbours in better circumstances do not accompany him at the time, it will be found that they often follow him. We find that a large number of the class who have the courage to emigrate at all have a little saving somewhere. Is it not better for them to spend it in obtaining permanent relief in this form than to fritter it away in keeping the wolf from the door, and graduating their passage down to absolute penury?

But I now come to remark that the right kind of emigrant must possess a certain character, without which he will be unsuitable for the task and unlikely to succeed in it—but with which his success is very largely assured. Here I pause to say that I think I deserve a little more confidence than has been shown me by my Colonial friends on this aspect of my subject. For some sixteen years now, notwithstanding my frequent and emphatic repudiations of the charge, I have had to endure the opprobrium of wanting to dump down on the Colonial shores the scum and riff-raff of Europe. Again and again I have declared that nothing could be further

from my intentions than the transfer from these shores for their settlement in whatever the Colony, of persons of idle, drunken or criminal habits. Again and again I have said that I should not think any man was a suitable emigrant for Canada, Australia, Africa, or elsewhere, whose character would unfit him for employment at home. But my protests have been in vain, the suspicion seems to be ineradicable from some Colonial minds. I think, however, that there are signs of its giving way a little of late.

It seems to me that the circumstances, capacity and experience of the Salvationist should create confidence in his qualifications not only for forming a correct judgment as to the suitability for emigration of individuals belonging to the class of whom I am speaking, but of faithfully and fearlessly acting upon that judgment. Look at the fitness of the army for this kind of work: We are in touch with this class of people almost everywhere. I suppose we are at the heart of the population of Great Britain in two thousand different centres, both in town and country. Then I think we are truly able to form an independent judgment as to the fitness of the candidates for emigration. We are among the people, of the people, and are therefore able to judge the people. Our officers and soldiers know what constitutes a decent, promising working man, because they are decent, industrious people themselves, and will speak the truth that they do know. Am I asked here: "What is the standard of character which we think qualifies a man for this kind of assistance?" Well, I reply that every selected candidate for emigration must, to come up to our standard, be honest, industrious, and sober.

Here I may, perhaps, be allowed to say that our Colonial friends seem to me to entertain somewhat extravagant, if not selfish, notions as to the character of the emigrant they desire. Being themselves the very pick of creation, and having obtained possession of a territory without its equal in this world, if it can be paralleled in the next, they can afford to be generous to the Mother Country, who they know is struggling with a mass of poverty, and those evils which so commonly flow out of it. They say sometimes that they want to share her burdens, and they reckon they practically proved this, by their action in the recent war. But when it comes to assisting her with the help they are so well able to render by receiving a portion of her surplus population, they are only willing to do so on what appears to many over here to be a somewhat selfish condition, and that is—that we should only send the very elect of our people! This is a little too bad. Of course, we cannot

guarantee that the people we send shall never have told a falsehood or cheated at play, or got the better of their mates in business, or drank a glass too much. For that class I must come to the West End! But we will guarantee that the people selected by us, from the East or elsewhere, shall be good average of honest, industrious sober men.

Then, the emigrant selected must be fairly fitted for residence in the country before him, and for the position he is expected to fill in it as it respects health, vigour, and capacity. To give an idea of the class we are sending out to-day, I may just state the occupations of the party about to sail for Canada on board the "Kensington." Sixty-five per cent. were born and bred in the country, and have grown up more or less following the business of agriculture. Some of these have emigrated to the towns. Fifteen per cent. are mechanics. Ten per cent. are professionals, tradesmen and the like. Ten per cent. are domestic servants. Of the entire number, eighty per cent. intend settling on the land. A few other particulars with regard to the emigrants on board the "Kensington" may be of some interest, such as:—Of the 1,400 probably two hundred will be children; of the remainder fifteen per cent. are under twenty years of age; sixty per cent. are over twenty and under thirty; twenty per cent. are over thirty and under forty; five per cent. are over forty; thirty per cent. are married; sixty per cent. are single; ten per cent. are widows and widowers; twenty per cent. are Salvationists; twenty-five per cent. professedly belong to the Church of England; fifty per cent. other Churches; and five per cent. make no profession of religion.

Having selected our emigrant, he must be wisely transferred to the country he has chosen. There is the risk of his coming to grief in the process of passing from his home in the Old Land to his home in the New. Many, I fear, have done so in the past, and, beyond question, many do so in the present, without the exercise of intelligent guidance, direction, and care. That oversight my people reckon they exercise conscientiously and skilfully. Of course, they are not perfect, but they are coming wonderfully on in that direction.

Now this includes the careful advice, guidance, and oversight of the emigrant in *this* country. Then there is the careful oversight for passing over the sea, which is of no little importance; reception on landing, and guidance to the destination, and the employment already fixed for him; as well as the oversight and care, and until able to stand on their own feet. In short, a friend in need when

accidents, sickness, and other misfortunes follow. Well, then, our system is such that when an emigrant is selected and accepted, we charge ourselves with the responsibility for the arrangements necessary for his welfare. This includes the disposal of any surplus goods and chattels that he may possess, advice as to the outfit he and his family may require, his transfer over the railways, his well-being, physical and moral, on board ship, his reception on disembarkation, securing for him employment, and his transportation to his destination, as well as the general oversight required afterwards. Of course there will be all sorts of exceptional circumstances requiring exceptional treatment. In many cases, now, the breadwinner goes out alone, leaves his wife and family to our care, transmitting through us money for their support.

We now come to consider the locality to which the emigrant shall be transferred. That necessitates a right selection also. A selection which not only asks for advantages on the part of the emigrant, but offers him the most favourable conditions in response. Here we seem to have a fair opportunity for a fair contract. In making our bargain for the transfer of the people from the Old Country to the new I might truly say, as respects them, and on their behalf: "You Colonial gentlemen have the millions of acres, I might say the thousands of square miles, of fertile, life-preserving country unoccupied or comparatively so. We over here, have the thousands, the tens of thousands, of men, women, and children, who are dying for want of that which the unoccupied country will readily produce. Your land means life and happiness, I might say heaven, to our people. Our people mean power and satisfaction and prosperity, and I might say heaven, to yours!"

Here, then, we have, as I think I have already indicated, a good occasion for a "deal," as they say in the City. We have the people. What do you offer in return? We sent out last year four thousand souls. This year we shall send out at least ten thousand, possibly many more. One thousand four hundred leave, as I have said, on March 1, on the "Kensington," and the same vessel is chartered for at least two other trips in the season. We are receiving at our newly-opened emigration offices in the City applications at the rate of five hundred to six hundred per day. Our mails on several days last week exceeded a thousand letters.

Here, then, are the people. They need to be sent somewhere, and they are willing to go, and go to where we recommend. The question now being, "Where shall we find the most suitable country to which they can be sent?" I need not say that the

British flag is preferred, although, up to date, that flag has not dealt very generously with us. Leaving out Mr. Herring's generous gift for home colonisation, no particularly liberal spirit has been shown in favour of the emigration I am advocating. Then the Colonies have not shown any great or generous willingness to assist in the development of a system which is admitted by them to carry with it so many great advantages. A little time back I sent a message to a leading Colonial politician, to the following effect. I think it hits off the situation with some exactness. The message ran somewhat as follows: "The attitude of your people, with respect to emigration, appears to me to be something like the following: You must select for us the pick of your population. They must be healthy, vigorous, and enterprising. They must be possessed of some practical acquaintance with the cultivation of the land; indeed, with the exception of domestic servants, we don't want any other class. They must be of irreproachable moral character. You must send them carefully over the sea, and land them in good condition safely on our shores. You must look after them when they have arrived there, taking the responsibility of fixing them up on their holdings or in their situations. You must watch over them and befriend them, and see that they keep steady afterwards. And, on our part, we will count them in our next census, and proceed immediately to collect the taxes they will pay, and reap the other substantial advantages they will confer."

Well, the attitude of the Colonies is perhaps not quite so bad as that to the Mother Country of whom they are no little proud; but it goes very far in that direction. But, then, there are signs of a breaking away to some little extent from this impossible position. Canada is offering us at the present moment half a million acres, with certain advantages, in different provinces. While the Governments are waiting to see how co-operation with us will affect their political regulations, private syndicates and individuals are approaching us with a view to securing financial advantages to themselves by assisting in our philanthropic undertakings. On this line we have just completed an engagement to send five hundred families to the north-west of Canada, one hundred of whom will leave this year. I may say that we have, at the present time, attractive offers from countries outside the British flag, but we feel that within the four walls of the British Empire there ought to be room for the needy sons and daughters of the Mother Country.

Emigration for the class of people I am concerned about, seems

to have many all-round advantages. It appears to be the natural common-sense method of dealing with the necessity. I am puzzled to imagine how anyone can reasonably object to it. Nevertheless, I have come in for a good deal of criticism on the subject, and I expect there is more to follow. I hear that a Scotch Labour Union the other day passed a strong condemnatory resolution on my Emigration proposals, denouncing them as being opposed to sound political and social economy, and I know not what. This seems to me not only rather hard, but somewhat mysterious. I cannot forget that our Scotch friends are continually doing a creditable amount of emigration on their own account, and especially is this the case when they happen to be favoured with friends able and willing to assist them in the process. Wherever I come in my travels I find someone who at one time or another has emigrated from Bonnie Scotland, and I usually find them filling good and leading positions, and surrounded by the comforts, if not the luxuries, of life. I do not blame them for their action, but if emigration be the right and proper thing for the well-to-do, why should it be objected to and denounced when resorted to by the poor, who have fallen on bad times? Let us suppose the case of a Lanarkshire miner out of work, with his wife pining, his family starving, his little savings exhausted, their clothes gone to the pawnbrokers, and nothing but the Poorhouse staring them in the face. Would he, or could anyone else rationally object to some friend telling him of a job in Yorkshire, and lending him sufficient money to travel there, and standing by him and his family till pay-day came round? I don't think so. Now, where is the difference in principle between such action, and that of helping a workless man in similar destitute condition, to emigrate from a Glasgow slum, to Winnipeg, where work and wages awaited him? I cannot see any.

This is an available plan. It is here, ready to hand. For the relief promised by Legislation, Old Age Pensions, Social Regulations, and a host of other things we must wait. And while we wait the agony endures, and the people linger, and suffer, and blaspheme and curse those who have it in their power to bring them deliverance, and die in wild despair.

This is an all-round beneficent plan. It benefits the workers whom the emigrant leaves behind. The main difficulty in the workshops arises from the awkward fact that there are too many pegs, and too few holes. Take away the superfluity of pegs, and there will be a hole for every peg—that is, a job for every man.

Moreover, instead of being a hamper or a parasite on the social body, he becomes a consumer, so helping to furnish work for others. Then it benefits the Colony to which the emigrant is transferred. This needs no argument. Take the question of revenue alone. It is generally admitted that the population of a Colony contributes from £3 to £5 per head, and a settler must, therefore, be worth from £50 to £100 to a Colony. Think of the benefit emigration confers on the man himself, his wife, his children! Whatever else it does for him, it usually delivers him from three miseries from which the only moderately-good Colonial seldom suffers: 1. The hunger misery. If not much more, there will be abundance of bread. 2. The four-five-six-or-seven-persons-in-one-room misery. Though rough and ready, he will have a dwelling in which he can turn himself round under decent and cleanly conditions. 3. The workhouse-prospect misery. If *he* does not save up for old age or sickness, some of the family will have the opportunity to do so!

This is an effective plan.

This is an economical plan.

Then, think of the advantage of a system that arranges for the repayment of the money that you expend in bringing about this change of circumstances. The man relieved on this principle does not turn up again, stretching out his hands and asking for pity and assistance when the need-wave of trade depression rolls over the country. Think of the large amount of money now expended on the men whom you emigrate, which you will save by placing him in a position in which he will be able to effectually maintain himself. I would assist all classes of men who have been reduced either by misfortune or misconduct to a destitute condition, by lending them money. This assistance to be given, of course, in such a form as would enable me to, as far as possible, enforce repayment. Specially would I do this for deserving workmen, who were willing and anxious to emigrate. This will seem to be, I think, a reasonable method. If you take an agricultural labourer from a crowded-out quarter of Norwich to Manitoba at a cost of £50—and it cannot be done, from first to last, for a much less amount—and if that money is obtained from a philanthropic society, or furnished by a rate imposed for that purpose, ought he not in the improved circumstance in which that assistance places him to repay the cost of the transaction? If he at once, as is not uncommon in our experience, jumps into work, and with his earnings, combined with those of his wife and children secures an income of from £3 to £5 a week, with a freehold farm in prospect

—can you object to his repaying by reasonable instalments the expenses incurred in obtaining for him these improved circumstances? Anyway, is it fair to ask his neighbours whom he leaves behind earning only eighteen shillings per week, to pay the cost of the transfer?

It may be asked: Is this method of repayment a possible plan? I reply that I have no question about it. I may cite by way of illustration the fact that out of £1,000 advanced two years ago to very poor people indeed we have already received £300 in repayment, and that the money is still steadily coming along. But it must be plain enough to all who consider the matter that if you are going to have emigration in some proportion to the need of it, and calculated to increase rather than lessen the sense of the emigrant's independence, you must make the man pay for the benefit he receives.

I feel sure that there was no necessity for me to come to the Colonial Institute to show that an increase in population is a serious desideratum to many of our Colonies. That is a foregone conclusion by all acquainted with them. I hope I have shown however, that the emigration of the genuine working-man is at least one means of meeting this need, while at the same time benefiting the working-man himself and meeting the unemployed difficulty in the Fatherland. I hope I have also impressed my audience with the conviction of which my own heart is full, that the Salvation Army occupies a position and enjoys qualifications which pre-eminently qualify her for conducting the needed emigration to a successful issue. I may, however, recapitulate some of her qualifications for this task. I have already shown her qualifications for selecting the right kind of emigrant. And as to her ability to keep and watch over them in their new homes there can, I think, be no question. If, as we have said, there are two thousand posts in this country ready to engage in the selection, we have at least in the countries named a corresponding number ready to take part in the reception and settling and oversight of the people who may need their care. Wherever you may wander over the vast Canadian Dominion or the Australian Continent, or the States of South Africa, you will find the Salvationists have their agencies ready and willing to engage in this task. Then her sympathies also may be regarded as a qualification for this task. Officers and soldiers alike are not only there, but there with heart and minds that understand, and sympathies that are willing to help the poor man,

and that not for payment, or by appointment, but because they have a heart for it. She is in a measure qualified by her experiences. She is not new at the business. Many of our people have gone through the mill of grinding poverty themselves. All of them are familiar with hard work, and such work as these emigrants go to do. The confidence she has come to command. At least it appears to be so, judging by the number of people of all classes and descriptions who are placing themselves under our care. All sorts and conditions of men, women and children are doing so.

Ladies and gentlemen, in discussing this subject I hope I have not said anything that has sounded unduly assertive or vainly boastful of the organisation with which it is my privilege to be associated; but if I were disposed to indulge a little in that direction I think I would close my remarks by saying that in my estimation the Salvation Army has, in her emigration work, deserved and deserves still further the confidence and practical co-operation of the public.

The CHAIRMAN: In my opening remarks I mentioned that it was General Booth's desire that there should be no set speeches—there is plenty of room for us to discuss the question hereafter. But he will be very happy to answer any question any member of the audience would like to put to him.

Mr. W. S. SEBRIGHT GREEN: As an old Colonial I am entirely in favour of emigration, but I am not in favour of emigrating at once the unemployed of London. There are many of them I know able and willing to work, if they could get employment, but utterly unfit at present to be emigrated. Do you think it is possible to train that class of man on agricultural farms in the Home Country? I have been asked to assist in taking up a farm in Essex—or rather it is an island—for this purpose. It is an ideal place in my opinion for planting men in little colonies of from 50 to 100, and making them work and earn their own living. Do you think it is possible to teach men of that kind to be fit for Colonial work? They have never been out of London.

General BOOTH: I will answer your question in this way. First, we should never think of sending out people who were not fit. There is no question that among the unemployed in London there are many who are not fit. In the second place there are many among the unemployed in London who are fit. And in the third place there is no question that men can go through some sort of training in this country to fit them for the Colonies. We have at

present in our farm colony about forty, the whole of whom leave London on Thursday for Canada.

Mr. L. F. ZIETSMAN (M.L.A. Cape Colony): Can General Booth tell us, assuming that suitable land can be provided for emigration, what sum of money per head would be required to settle successfully the class of emigrants he describes on the land in any of our Colonies?

General BOOTH: We reckon that it will cost £500 to settle a man and his family in this country on five acres. We assume that it should be possible to do so for a much less sum in Canada. I believe that £300 would be required to settle a family there. But then they would repay it.

Mr. R. L. OUTHWAITE (Victoria): The General suggests sending unskilled men from this country for the purpose of finding work in the Colonies. In Australia there are large numbers of unskilled men seeking for work; there is a large unemployed problem there. The Australians would naturally say: "Why send us unskilled men to join the unskilled men we have here already?" I want to ask the General what is the use of sending unskilled men from England to join the unskilled men in the Colonies who already present a very difficult problem?

General BOOTH: We do not expect to have an opportunity at present of sending emigrants to Australia of any description. We are waiting until they come to their senses and understand what their needs are. In the second place, we should not think of sending a man or a woman to Australia for whom a position had not been obtained before they got there. It is true there is a large number of unemployed in Australia, but, so far as I understand, they are only willing to be employed at 7s. 6d. a day.

Mr. R. L. OUTHWAITE: Seeing that you recognise that there is an unemployed difficulty in Australia, is it fair to cast an aspersion on Australia that it is unfavourable to emigration?

General BOOTH: Why don't the Australians open their immense areas of unused land over which at present only a few sheep are wandering? They will soon find that people would come and occupy them.

Mr. W. COWERN (New Zealand): I should like to ask General Booth, in reference to the question and remarks of the previous speaker and his reply—what has been the result, so far, of his scheme of settlement on the lands set apart for his use in Western Australia?

General BOOTH: We have a large tract of country there, it is

true, but it was not of my own selection, and it is not of a class adapted for mixed farming. At the same time we are working it as far as our capital will allow. We are already making it pay working expenses. We have got some 300 souls on it, and we hope to do a great deal better than we are doing. But we are hampered by the minimum wages question; we cannot employ a man except at a certain wage.

Mr. A. H. SYTNER (Cape Colony): I should like to ask you if your attention has been drawn in the direction of South Africa. I am a Cape Colonist, and I believe that the feeling of the English population is in favour of your scheme?

General BOOTH: We are considering a scheme which I trust will be satisfactory to the people of South Africa. But Canada has come forward in the most open-handed manner and offered us the readiest response, for which we are very grateful—although of course she has profited well herself. But there are plenty of people for all the Colonies. I should like to say here how much we appreciate the generous gift of Lady Strathcona, of which we hope to avail ourselves to the full. I trust that the result will be so gratifying to her Ladyship as to induce her to do the same thing again.

The CHAIRMAN: It is impossible for me sitting in this chair, to refrain from calling attention to the fact that our old and distinguished friend Lord Strathcona is here. I am sure we are much obliged to him and to Lady Strathcona for their handsome donation and support of the plan of the Salvation Army.

General BOOTH: I shall ask you now to express our thanks to Sir Frederick Young for his presidency on the present occasion.

The CHAIRMAN: I have to thank you most heartily for the compliment you have paid me. I was about to rise to propose a hearty vote of thanks to yourself, General Booth, for the very brilliant address you have given to us. All I can say is that you have in the most eloquent terms described all my own aspirations. I have personally to thank you most heartily for all that you have said.

General Booth having acknowledged the compliment, the meeting terminated.

## REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS RELATING TO THE COLONIES AND INDIA.

(By JAMES R. BOOSÉ, Librarian R.C.I.)

**Browne, George Waldo.**—*The St. Lawrence River, Historical—Legendary—Picturesque.* Royal 8vo. Pp. xix-365. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1905. (Price 15s.)

The history of a river may on the face of it appear a not altogether attractive theme, but in the case of the magnificent St. Lawrence, with its historic incidents, its picturesque scenery and its prolific sources of legends and traditions, Mr. George Waldo Browne has set before us a story which is full of interest and sparkling with romance. He has had much material to draw upon and has exercised excellent discretion in the selection of those points of interest which appeal more strongly to the general reader. The St. Lawrence, in its most limited bounds, begins at the foot of Lake Ontario, opposite the city of Kingston and flows generally in a north-easterly direction about 750 miles. Seldom less than two miles in width, it becomes eighty miles in width, when it ceases to be considered a river. With its tributaries it drains over 400,000 square miles of country made up of fertile valleys and plateaux, inhabited by a prosperous people, desolate barrens and deep forests where the foot of man has not yet left its imprint. Its features are as remarkable as any of the other great rivers of the world, whilst it is the only large river traced upon *Novus orbis*, which is claimed to be the first general atlas of the Western Hemisphere. In regard to its navigation, tradition says one Thomas Aubert sailed up the river in the early part of the sixteenth century as far as Tadousac. Passing however into the more substantial structure of history the names of Cartier, the Pathfinder; Champlain, the father of French Colonisation, and Frontenac, the saviour of New France, are all closely identified with the early history of the St. Lawrence, and their explorations and travels are dealt with at considerable length by Mr. Waldo Browne, who further relates the experiences of those early voyagers in their contact with the various tribes of Indians who inhabited the country of Eastern Canada. Closely identified with the history of the St. Lawrence river was the founding of Quebec by Champlain, the subject being fully dealt with by the Author, who embodies a mass of historical details regarding the early settlement and government of Canada both from the British and French standpoint. The work bristles with important details, affecting the representatives of both countries and the part played by them in upholding the claims of their governments to the territory which now forms one of the greatest possessions of the British nation. The trading propensities of the early settlers, the development of the fur

trade, and the value of the St. Lawrence as a maritime highway are dealt with as well as the efforts of the religious teachers who went from France to the valley of the St. Lawrence, and not only spread civilisation amongst the Indians but assisted to a large extent in the exploration of the country. These brave men left behind them valuable records regarding the customs, religion, legends, and language of the native races which have recently been republished in a work entitled the "Jesuit Relations," consisting of seventy-three volumes. Mr. Waldo Browne's fascinating work is full of exhaustive details of the history of the St. Lawrence, which is one of the greatest maritime highways of the world, on the banks of which are now to be seen the most prosperous towns in the Dominion, possessing commercial relations with all parts of the habitable globe. A special feature of the book is the series of photographic illustrations, which add considerably to its value.

*Indian Record Series : Bengal in 1756-1757, a Selection of Public and Private Papers dealing with the Affairs of the British in Bengal during the reign of Siraj-Uddaula.* Edited with notes and an Historical Introduction by S. C. Hill. 3 Vols. 8vo. Pp. cexii-308, xx-469, vii-487. London: John Murray. 1905. (Price 36s.)

In three handsome volumes the Government of India has issued through Mr. John Murray the first instalment of what appears to be a valuable collection of private and public documents selected from the records of the Indian Governments and of the India Office in London, to be known as the "Indian Record Series." The first part of the work deals with Bengal in 1756-1757, and its object is to throw as much light as possible upon the Revolution by which the power of the Muhammadan government was broken up and the way prepared for British domination in Bengal. In order to attain strict accuracy the Editor—Mr. S. C. Hill—has examined not only the Records in Calcutta but those in London, Paris, and the Hague, many of which have never before been published, with the result that the history of Bengal at the period referred to is set forth in a manner previously unattained by any of the historians of the country. Mr. Hill contributes a comprehensive introduction in which he bases his conclusions not only upon the official records now published, but also upon the works of contemporary writers—and has dealt in greatest detail with points which in his opinion have not been cleared up by earlier writers, or in regard to which previous conclusions need some modification. In sifting the immense amount of evidence which exists, and more especially in excluding papers and portions of papers of little importance or which possess no distinctive historical bearing, Mr. Hill has enabled us to obtain an intimate acquaintance with the manners and spirit of the times dealt with and to leave on record a reliable account of the state of the Province of Bengal at one of the most interesting periods of the history of India under British rule and domination.

**Buchan, John.**—*The Law relating to the Taxation of Foreign Income.* 8vo. Pp. lxxxiv-123. London: Stevens & Sons, Ltd. 1905. (Price 10s. 6d.)

Mr. Buchan has rendered a service to those who desire to obtain in a concise and handy form the principles of law which govern in this country the taxation, not only of income derived from foreign countries, but from all parts of the British Empire, and the profits which accrue from British sources to residents in other parts of the world. For several years past the whole question of the duplication of taxation within the Empire has occupied the attention of the Council of the Royal Colonial Institute, and although Mr. Buchan does not appear to be acquainted with the terms of the memorial and correspondence with the Imperial Government upon the subject, a large amount of the information regarding the imposition of Income Tax in the Colonies which is embodied in his work has already been made public in those documents. From a general point of view, however, his work is an admirable *résumé* of the terms of the various Acts now in force, and a useful guide to the intricacies of this very complicated question. In spite of the great care which Mr. Buchan appears to have exercised in marshalling his facts, it should be pointed out that both as regards New South Wales and Victoria an Income Tax was first introduced in the year 1895, and not in 1896, as stated on pp. lxvi-lxvii.

**Blechynden, Kathleen.**—*Calcutta, Past and Present.* 12mo. Pp. xvi-245. London: W. Thacker & Co. 1905. (Price 7s.)

It is not a little curious to compare the general conditions of Calcutta in the past or rather in the very early days of its existence with the magnificent city which now claims to be in point of population the second city in the British Empire and has been appropriately styled the "City of Palaces." The writer of this work has had a family connection with Calcutta extending over many years which has placed at her disposal old diaries and other personal records, besides maps of the town on which changes and improvements were recorded as they were made. These, together with an intimate knowledge of the city, gained during several years' residence there, have enabled her to compile a most interesting and entertaining account not only of the town itself but of the people who took a prominent part in its foundation, their daily cares and amusements, their social and business habits and their general mode of life. In setting forth the results of her researches amongst the various archives consulted Miss Blechynden has gathered together all the main incidents in the history of Calcutta and its people and has woven them into a continuous story, setting forth the gradual development of the city and the influence exerted by the early pioneers in connection with its present commercial prosperity. A large number of illustrations appear throughout the text and comprise reproductions of old portraits and engravings as well as modern photographs.

**Reinsch, Professor Paul S.**—*Colonial Administration.* 12mo. Pp. viii-422. London: Macmillan & Co. 1905. (Price 5s.)

The problem of governing distant and alien dependencies is one that is now engaging the attention of the Government of the United States, as it has from time to time in the past exercised the minds of statesmen and others in those countries having colonial possessions. The United States having now become a colonising Power, it is only natural that the question of administration should become a prominent one and that its study should be taken up by leading men in the chief educational institutions of America. Professor Reinsch, who occupies the position of Professor of Political Science in the University of Wisconsin, was among the first to recognise the importance of a knowledge of the main points of colonial administration in the past and the experiences of other colonising nations in governing their outlying possessions. In the volume under notice he furnishes a statement of the various problems confronting colonial governments and indicates the main lines of solution that have been attempted, selecting from the vast amount of available material the most striking illustrations. In a previous volume, entitled "Colonial Government," he set forth the general forms of Colonial Government, whereas in the present work he deals exclusively with such problems as finance, taxation, education, defence, protection of natives, land policy, agricultural and industrial development, &c. Under each of these headings he evinces a thorough knowledge of the conditions existing in the colonial possessions of the various European nations, and places before us a well thought out and careful survey of their administration and development.

**Pope, Rev. G. U. (M.A., D.D.)**—*A Catechism of Tamil Grammar.* No. II. 12mo. Pp. 76. Oxford and London: Clarendon Press. 1905. (Price 2s.)

This is the second of a series of grammars prepared for Tamil schools which has been in extensive use for more than fifty years. It has been reprinted mainly for the use of students reading for the higher proficiency examination, and is divided into four sections dealing respectively with orthography, etymology, syntax, and prosody.

**Roth, H. Ling.**—*Great Benin, its Customs, Art and Horrors.* 4to. Pp. xii-234, xxxii. Halifax: F. King & Sons, Ltd. 1903.

Mr. H. Ling Roth has on several previous occasions contributed a large amount of information regarding the native races and customs of various parts of the world. In dealing with the little known country of Benin his information has been obtained from old records and from descriptions supplied by eye-witnesses of recent events in the country which was, for a long period, closed to the traveller, and therefore, to a large extent, *terra incognita*. Mr. Ling Roth, however, has succeeded in gathering together a mass of information regarding the city of Benin, which has been de-

scribed as a place of no wealth or power except the power of the influence of fetish, and the sense of the spirit of a long past of atrocities, together with the customs of its people, the art and horrors of the country. He has prosecuted his researches in all directions and has devoted years of patient and conscientious study to the task of analysing and presenting in attractive form the material so gathered together from innumerable sources. In the several chapters of his attractive work Mr. Ling Roth, after referring to the first chroniclers, and the discovery of the country, devotes a large amount of space to the trade, industry, farming, &c., of the people of Benin. But the main interest of the work lies in the reference to the subject of art amongst this savage race, the carving of ivory and wood having attained a fairly high stage of progress. Mr. Ling Roth not only gives a full account of the various embellishments, but with, the co-operation of the authorities of the British Museum and various scientific bodies, he has embodied in his work a series of most interesting photographs of Benin art, including both carved work and metal castings. Regarding the latter he states "the taking of Benin city opened up to us the knowledge of the existence of a hitherto unknown African craft, the productions of which will hold their own among some of the best specimens of antiquity or modern times." On the arrival of the punitive expedition of 1897, large numbers of bronze and brass castings were discovered, such as neither traveller, ethnologist, nor archæologist ever dreamt of, which were rich in quality as well as variety. Many of these are now in the possession of the British Museum—the collection of plaques being probably the finest to be found in any museum in the world. At the same time, for the want of proper pecuniary support, a large number of the castings, which had cost thousands of pounds to obtain, were sold for a few hundred pounds, with the result that they have been lost to this country and have helped to enrich the collection of ethnological specimens of a foreign nation. This matter is dealt with at some length in the appendix to Mr. Ling Roth's book, and is a glaring instance of the apathy of those in authority with regard to the study of native races and their developments, which is essential to every civilised community which trades with, or is called upon to govern, native communities.

**Morice, Rev. A. G. (O.M.I.).**—*The History of the Northern Interior of British Columbia (formerly New Caledonia) (1660–1880).* 8vo. Pp. xii–368. London: John Lane. 1905. (Price 16s.)

The Author of this work is already well known as a philological student of considerable knowledge and ability, his studies amongst the Indians of the Pacific coast having gained for him high encomiums from scientific societies in various parts of the world. In his history of the northern interior of British Columbia he has given us an account of a little known portion of the Dominion of Canada, which was formerly known as New Caledonia, and about which not even Canadians themselves—up to a very recent date—possessed any really accurate knowledge. Father Morice

opens his work with a description of the physical features and aborigines of the country, gathered from pre-European times and from the journals of Alexander Mackenzie, who was the discoverer of New Caledonia, and therefore of the interior of British Columbia, and whose journal contains valuable details regarding the aspect of the country, the nature of its fauna, &c. The work of the North-West Company and the Hudson Bay Company in New Caledonia is referred to at some length and is based upon the letters, journals, and other memoranda kept at the trading posts, which supply an interesting picture of the life of the few white traders who first settled in the country. The exploration of the interior, the administration of the country, its resources, &c., are questions upon which Father Morice enlightens us, whilst his closing chapters set forth the noble work of the Catholic Missions which were founded in 1842. The rush for gold and the advent of thousands of new-comers, are graphically described, together with various incidents illustrating the lives of the white men and the natives under the new conditions. The outstanding features of the work is the fairness of its tone and its trustworthiness as a work of historical interest.

**Heinrich XXXIII., Prinz Reub. J. L.**—*Der Britische Imperialismus*. 8vo. Pp. viii-168. Berlin: O. Häring. 1905.

This is the inaugural discourse of the Author at the University of Heidelberg, and sets forth the views of a foreign writer upon prominent questions of the day in connection with the British Empire generally. It is divided into three parts, the first of which traces the growth of the idea of Imperialism, and sets forth the Author's opinions regarding the Colonial Conferences and the views of Mr. Chamberlain. It next deals with the question of Imperial Federation, and with such topics as Imperial commerce, finance, defence, &c., and concludes with some critical observations upon the views expounded from time to time for a closer union of the Empire. The Author deprecates altogether the idea of an Imperial Zollverein, but favours Sir Frederick Pollock's project for an Imperial Committee of the Privy Council.

*The Annual Financial Review (Canadian), July 1905.* Compiled by W. R. Houston. Oblong 4to. Pp. 422. Toronto: The Annual Financial Review. London: Effingham Wilson.

The "Canadian Annual Financial Review" is an indispensable work of reference regarding the commercial prosperity of the Dominion and the position of the various trading corporations and companies of the country. The information is obtained from reliable sources, and supplies in a handy form facts and figures regarding the present condition of all the leading financial institutions, as well as a carefully revised *précis* showing the position of Canadian securities.

**Outram, James.**—*In the Heart of the Canadian Rockies.* 8vo. Pp. xii-466. London: Macmillan & Co. 1905. (Price 12s. 6d.)

The mountains of North-Western Canada possess a wonderful fascination, and, to quote the opinion of the writer of this work, "their massive grandeur, majesty of lofty height, splendour of striking outline, seem to appeal both to the intellect and to the inmost soul of man, and to compel a mingled reverence and love." More especially is this the case where snow and glacier combine to add a hundredfold to all the other charms and glories of the peaks. "The Mountains and their History" is the subject of the opening chapter of Mr. Outram's most entertaining book, and although, from the historical point of view, the history of this portion of the Dominion is not a very ancient one, there is much valuable information regarding hitherto untrodden peaks and passes and the chief points of interest and beauty massed in the mountain fastnesses. Mr. Outram has recorded some of the more notable first ascents, together with the narratives of some of his predecessors in the Canadian Rockies, but the most interesting portions of the work are those in which the Author's own experiences are narrated. In successive chapters he gives an account of the mountain ranges from Mount Assiniboine to Mount Columbia and Diadem Peak, and throughout one is struck by the great difficulties and accompanying dangers which have always proved so fascinating to the mountain climber in all parts of the world. Mr. Outram's book will doubtless be widely read, and may probably have the effect of attracting attention to the many advantages of the Canadian Rockies from the mountaineer's point of view. The Author's own experiences have led him to the conclusion that the average Rocky Mountain peak is admirably adapted as a field for the beginner in the study of the craft. Owing to the action of the authorities of the Canadian Pacific Railway, every possible facility is offered for the enjoyment of the exercise and scenery which is the reward of mountaineering, and to be obtained through it alone. The illustrations appearing in the work are numerous, and present many views of the grandeur of the scenery of this interesting portion of the Canadian Dominion.

**Laughton, John Knox.**—*Nelson and his Companions in Arms.* 12mo. Pp. 261. London: George Allen. 1905. (Price 2s. 6d.)

In this little work the Author has produced a concise and well-written record of the life of Lord Nelson, in which is embodied details of his early service and accounts of the hero's naval career extending from the battle of St. Vincent to Trafalgar. In a concluding chapter Professor Laughton enumerates some of the monuments which have been erected in different parts of the country, and reproduces George Canning's poem, now almost forgotten—"Ulm and Trafalgar."

**Becke, Louis.**—*Notes from my South Sea Log.* 12mo. Pp. vi-352. London: T. Werner Laurie. 1905. (Price 6s.)

In this collection of notes from his South Sea Log, Mr. Louis Becke relates many interesting stories of life in and about those scattered islands of the South Pacific which he knows so well and has written about in so fascinating a manner. Mr. Becke, in addition to being a fluent writer, is full of enthusiasm, which carries both himself and his reader along in the most agreeable style. The stories are of a most varied kind, and contain more especially incidents of life of the trader, the sailor, and the settler in the South Sea Islands.

*The West African Pocket-Book—A Guide for Newly-appointed Government Officers.* Compiled by direction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. 12mo. Pp. 60. London: Waterlow & Sons, Ltd. 1905.

Many useful notes for those about to proceed to the West Coast of Africa are to be found in this little work, which has been compiled by direction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Up to the present time a newly-appointed official has been at a loss to know what to take in the way of outfit and what to leave behind; but, armed with the "West African Pocket-Book," he will now be enabled to obtain all the necessary information regarding outfit, health precautions, food and drink, travelling and bush life, and many other necessary details of life in West Africa with the least possible trouble.

**Archer, Francis Bisset.**—*The Gambia Colony and Protectorate, an Official Handbook.* 8vo. Pp. xviii-364. London: St. Bride's Press, Ltd. 1906. (Price 10s.)

In a work containing some four hundred pages of letterpress, Mr. Bisset Archer has narrated the history, development and commercial resources of one of the smallest of the Colonial possessions of Great Britain, and the most northerly of the British West African Dependencies. Such a record as he has compiled will surprise not only those who imagine the Gambia to be a valueless tract, but also many who have, to a certain extent, followed the course of Colonial development in that part of Western Africa. The Colony, which can boast of a most ancient history, contains at the present time only some five thousand square miles of territory, and was practically the original starting-point of that West African trade which has of late years made such marvellous strides. In his historical review, Mr. Archer has drawn upon all available records of the early claims to the territory of the French, Dutch, and British, and has gathered together a collection of facts regarding the exploration of the country and its gradual development in which the many difficulties with which the explorer and trader had to contend are set forth. He refers at some length to the

manners and customs of the peoples inhabiting the countries bordering on the Gambia River, much of the information having been obtained by the author during his residence in the country. As regards trade, the staple article of cultivation is the ground-nut, enormous quantities of which are annually exported. Experiments, however, are being carried out with cotton and other products, but Mr. Archer points out that the people of the Gambia are strongly opposed to the introduction of any new methods, their industries, abodes and habits being much the same now as travellers found them centuries ago. A large portion of the work is taken up by purely official documents, service regulations, and enactments in force for the administration of the Colony. An English-Mandingo dictionary of some eight hundred words and phrases in common use, with the English equivalents, is of use to those resident in the country. The work, which contains many excellent illustrations, is full of useful information regarding the past and present history of the Gambia Colony.

*The Australasian Handbook: Shippers, Importers and Professional Directory and Business Guide for 1906.* Royal 8vo. Pp. 684-227. London: Gordon & Gotch. (Price 10s. 6d.)

After retaining its now well-known title of the Australian Handbook for a period of thirty-six years, the current issue makes its appearance as the Australasian Handbook, at the suggestion, it is stated, of friends in the New Zealand Government; but its scope and usefulness naturally cover the same ground as heretofore. As a work of reference it is indispensable to those in this country having trade or other relations with Australia and New Zealand, and it is equally necessary for residents of those parts of the Empire desiring information regarding the Mother Country. The miscellaneous character of the contents appeals to all classes, whilst the numerous statistical tables which are based upon the latest available returns are of considerable value from a commercial point of view. Special subjects, such as Patents, Trade Marks, Designs, Copyrights, have been revised, and the gazetteer section of the work contains full and trustworthy information regarding the towns of the Commonwealth and New Zealand. One amongst many useful items is a series of maps setting forth the geographical features, rainfall, land surface, exploration, and railway routes. The work is replete with information upon all questions affecting the trade, resources, government, institutions, social life, &c. of Australasia, all of which is set forth in a concise and admirable manner.

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Burn (David). Van Diemen's Land Vindicated. 1840

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Hill (R. T.). *The Geology and Physical Geography of Jamaica: Study of a type of Antillean development, based upon surveys made for Alex. Agassiz.* With 41 plates. 1899. (*Bulletin of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College.* Vol. 34.)

Oliver (V. L.) *History of the Island of Antigua, one of the Leeward Caribbees in the West Indies, from the first settlement in 1635 to the present time.* 3 vols. 1894-99.

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Royal Asiatic Society (Ceylon Branch). Journals and Proceedings, Vol. VI. No. 21, 1890. Vol. VII. No. 23, 1881

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**Sierra Leone**—Sierra Leone Royal Gazette. Nos. 139, 140 (1881). No. 146 (1882). No. 225 (1888)

## ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION.

1906.

- March 13. Ordinary Meeting at the Whitehall Rooms at 8 P.M. Miss C. de Thierry, "What is our policy in the West Indies?" Sir Neville Lubbock, K.C.M.G. will preside.
- April 10. Ordinary Meeting at the Whitehall Rooms, at 8 P.M. Walter H. James, K.C. (Agent-General for Western Australia) "Australian Immigration."
- April 25. Annual Dinner at 7.30 P.M. The Earl of Elgin, K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E. (Secretary of State for the Colonies), will preside.
- June 12. Ordinary Meeting at the Whitehall Rooms, at 8 P.M. Richard Jebb, "Imperial Organisation."

Occasional Meetings will also be held in the Library of the Institute at 4.30 P.M., when Papers occupying about half an hour will be read; and, in order to avert undue expense, the reports published in the "Journal" and "Proceedings" will not exceed three pages. A notice of the date and subject of each Afternoon Meeting will be exhibited in the Hall of the Institute, and inserted in the "Journal" whenever practicable; but separate postcards will not be printed as in the case of Evening Meetings.

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British Barracks, Khartoum.

4th December, 1905.

Sirs,

On hearing that the Battalion was about to be stationed at Khartoum, a quantity of seed was obtained from your firm for use here in forming vegetable gardens for the use of the troops. The soil was originally absolute desert sand, but by irrigation from the Blue Nile, on whose banks the Barracks are built, it has been made into quite arable land.

On the 8th October some of your Long Turnip Radish seed and Red Giant Bean seeds were sown. In a few days the seed germinated, and the radishes, some of which reached eight inches in length, were ready for gathering on the 18th November.

The beans far surpass anything ever seen in the Soudan, many of them being nine inches long. I frequently visit the native vegetable markets both here and at Omdurman, but have never seen anything to equal them either in size or flavour.

All the other seeds sown are coming on equally well, and we hope to begin digging potatoes in the first week in January.

Will you kindly send me a copy of your illustrated Catalogue of Flower and Vegetable Seeds?

I am, yours very faithfully,

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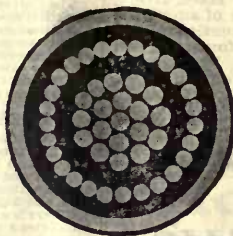
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